The Weekly Constitution Post.

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[For The Post.]

GROWING OLD.

They say you're growing old, Mary,
To me you are as fair,
As when you stood my bonny bride,
With blossoms in your hair,
And 'though long years have flown, Mary,
Our love has ne'er grown cold,
It has gathered strength with age and care,
Proven a link of gold.

It saved me from despair, Mary,
When dark misfortune frowned
And led us hand in hand to bow,
Beside a lowly mound,
Our only child slept there, Mary
I thought your heart would break,
Yet when you saw me mourn and weep,
You rallied "for my sake."

When other sorrows came, Mary,
And vexed my spirit sore
'Twas you that whispered "There is rest,"
Where weary, sigh no more,
You taught me "God is love" Mary,
And by your yearning prayers,
You led me safe within the fold
Free from earth's sin and cares.

And all through life you've been, Mary,
A shining star of light,
Guiding me on toward Heaven
With loving smiles, so bright,
They say you are growing old, Mary,
To me you're as fair,
As when you stood my bonny bride,
With blossoms in your hair.

MINNIE J. OWNEY.

A STEAMBOAT RACE.

From the "Gilded Age" a novel written conjointly by Mark Twain and Charles D. Warner we take the following account of a steamboat race on the Mississippi and for the authenticity of which the authors vouch:

At night the boat forged on through the deep solitudes of the river, hardly ever discovering a light to testify to a human presence—mile after mile and league after league the vast bends were guarded by unbroken walls of forest that had never been disturbed by the voice or the footfall of a man, or felt the edge of his sacrilegious ax.

An hour after supper the moon came up, and Clay and Washington [two boys] ascended to the hurricane deck to revel again in their new realm of enchantment. They ran races up and down the deck; climbed about the bell; made friends with the passenger-dogs chained under the life-boat; tried to make friends with a passenger-bear fastened to the verge staff, but were not encouraged; "skinned the cat" on the hog-chains; in a word, exhausted the amusement possibilities of the deck. Then they looked wistfully up at the pilot-house, and finally, little by little, Clay ventured up there, followed diffidently by Washington. The pilot turned presently to "get his stern marks," saw the lads, and invited them in. This cozy little house, built entirely of glass, and commanding a marvelous prospect in every direction, was a magician's throne to them, and their enjoyment of the place was simply boundless.

They sat them down on a high bench and looked miles ahead, and saw the wooded capes fold back and reveal the bends beyond; and they looked miles to the rear and saw the silvery highway diminish its breadth by degrees and close itself together in the distance. Presently the pilot said:

"By George, yonder comes the Amaranth!

A spark appeared, close to the water, several miles down the river. The pilot took his glass and looked at it steadily for a moment, and said, chiefly to himself:

"It can't be the Blue Wing. She couldn't pick us up this way. It's the Amaranth, sure."

He bent over a speaking tube, and said:

"Who's on watch down there?"

A hollow, unhuman voice rumbled up through the tube in answer:

"I am. Second engineer."

"Good! You want to stir your stumps, my, Harry—the Amaranth's just turned Hat point—and she's just a humping her-

"Not took hold of a rope that stretch-forward, jerked it twice, and two strokes of the big bell responded. Then out on the deck shouted:

"Ed by, down there, with that lab-oard!"

"I don't want the lead, said the I want you. Roust out the old man him the Amaranth's coming. And call Jim—tell *him*."

"e, aye, sir!"

"old man "was the Captain—he is s called so on steamboats and ships; was the other pilot. Within two es both of these men were flying up lot-house stairway, three steps at a Jim was in his shirt-sleeves, with at and vest on his arm. He said: was just turning in. Where's the "

took it and looked:

on't appear to be any night-hawk on jackstaff—It's the Amaranth, dead

e Captain took a long look, and only "Damnation!"

George Davis, the pilot on watch, shouted to the night-watchman on deck:

"How's she loaded?"

"Two inches by the head, sir."

"Taint enough!"

The Captain shouted now:

"Call the mate. Tell him to call all hands and get a load of that sugar forrard—put her ten inches by the head. Lively now!"

"Aye, aye, sir!"

A riot of shouting and trampling floated up from below presently, and the uneasy steering of the boat soon showed that she was getting "down by the head."

The three men in the pilot-house began to talk in short, sharp sentences, low and earnestly. As their excitement rose, their voices went down. As fast as one of them put down the spyglass another took it up; but always with a studied air of calmness. Each time the verdict was:

"She's a gaining!"

The Captain spoke through the tube:

"What steam are you carrying?"

"A hundred and forty-two, sir! But she's getting hotter and hotter all the time."

The boat was straining, and groaning, and quivering like a monster in pain. Both pilots were at work now, one on each side of the wheel, with their coats and vests off, their bosoms and collars wide open, and the perspiration flowing down their faces. They were holding the boat so close to the shore that the billows swept the guards almost from stem to stern.

"Stand by!" whispered George.

"All ready!" said Jim, under his breath.

"Let her come!"

The boat sprang away from the bank like a deer, and darted in a long diagonal toward the other shore. She closed in again and thrashed her fierce way along the willows as before. The captain put down the glass:

"Lord, how she walks up on us! I do hate to be beat!"

"Jim," said George, looking straight ahead, watching the slightest yawing of the boat and promptly meeting it with the wheel, "how'll it do to try Murderer's Bite?"

"Well, it's—it's taking chances. How is the cottonwood on the stump on the low point below Boardman's Island this morning?"

"Water just touching the roots."

"Well, it's pretty close work. That gives six feet scant in the head of Murderer's Chute. We can just barely rub through if we hit it exactly right. But it's worth trying. *She* don't dare tackle it!"—meaning the Amaranth.

In another instance the Boreas plunged into what seemed a crooked creek, and the Amaranth's approaching lights were shut out in a moment. Not a whisper was uttered now, but the three men stared ahead into the shadows, and two of them spun the wheel back and forth with anxious watchfulness, while the steamer tore along. The chute seemed to come to an end every fifty yards, but always opened out in time. Now the head of it was at hand. George tapped the big bell three times, two leadsmen sprang to their posts, and in a moment their weird cries rose on the night air, and were caught up and repeated by two men on the upper deck:

"No-o-bottom!"

"De-e-p four!"

"Half three!"

"Quarter three!"

"Mark under a wa-a-ter three!"

"Quarter twain!——"

Davis pulled a couple of ropes—there was a jingling of small bells far below, the boat's speed slackened, and the pent steam began to whistle and the guage cocks scream:

"By the mark twain!"

"Quar-ter-*her*-er-*less* twain!"

"Eight *and* a half!"

"Eight feet!"

"Seven-an-a-half!——"

Another jingling of little bells and the wheels ceased turning altogether. The whistling of the steam was something frightful, now—it almost drowned all other noises.

"Stand by to meet her!"

George had the wheel hard down and was standing on the spoke.

"All ready."

The boat hesitated,—seemed to hold her breath, as did the Captain and pilots,—and then she began to fall away to starboard, and every eye lighted.

"*Now*, then!—meet her! meet her! Snatch her!"

The wheel flew to port so fast that the spokes blended into a spider web—the swing of the boat subsided,—she steadied herself,—

"Seven feet!"

"Sev.—six and a *half*!"

"*six* feet! Six f——"

Bang! She hit the bottom! George shouted through the tube:

"Spread her wide open! *Whale it at her*!"

Pow—wow—chow! The escape pipes belched snowy pillars of steam aloft, the boat aground, and surged and trembled—and slid over into—

"M-a-r-k twain!"

"Quarter-*her*——"

"Tap! tap! tap!" (to signify "Lay in the leads").

And away she went, flying up the willow shore, with the whole silver sea of the Mississippi stretching abroad on every hand.

No Amaranth in sight!

"Ha-ha, boys, we took a couple of tricks that time!" said the Captain.

And just at that moment a red glare appeared in the head of the chute, and the Amaranth came springing after them!

"Well, I swear!"

"Jim, what *is* the meaning of that?"

"I'll tell you what's the meaning of it. That hail we had at Napoleon was Wash Hastings wanting to come to Cairo, and we didn't stop. He's in that pilot-house, now, showing those mud-turtles how to hunt for easy water.

"That's it! I thought it wasn't any slouch that was running that middle bar in Hog-eye Bend. If it's Wash Hastings,—well, what he don't know about the river ain't worth knowing,—a regular gold-leaf, kid-glove, diamond-breast-pin pilot, Wash Hastings is. We won't take any tricks off of *him*, old man!"

"I wish I'd a stopped for him, that's all.

The Amaranth was within 300 yards of the Boreas, and still gaining. The "old man "spoke through the tube:

"What is she carrying now?"

"A hundred and sixty-five, sir!"

"How's your wood?"

"Pine all out—cypress half gone—eating up cotton wood like pie!"

"Break into that rosin on the main deck—pile it in, the boat can pay for it!"

Soon the boat was plunging, and quivering, and screaming more madly than ever. But the Amaranth's head was almost abreast the Boreas' stern.

"How's your steam, Harry?"

"Hundred and eighty-two, sir!"

"Break up the casks of bacon in the forrard hold! Pile it in! Levy on that turpentine in the fantail—drench every stick of wood with it!"

The boat was a moving earthquake by this time.

"How is she now?"

A hundred and, ninety-six and still a swelling—water below the middle gauge cocks—carrying every pound she can stand, nigger roosting on the safety valve!"

"Good! How's your draft?"

"Bully! Every time a nigger heaves a stick of wood into the furnace he goes out the chimney with it!"

The Amaranth drew steadily up till her jackstaff breasted the Boreas' wheel house climbed along inch by inch till her chimneys breasted it—crept along, further and further, till the boats were wheel to wheel—and then they close up with a heavy jolt and locked together tight and fast in the middle of the big river, under the flooding moonlight! A roar and a hurrah went up from the crowded decks of both steamers—all hands rushed to the guards to look, and shout, and gesticulate—the weight careened the vessels over toward each other—officers flew hither and thither cursing and storming, trying to drive the people amidships—both Captains were leaning over their railings shaking their fists, swearing and threatening—black volumes of smoke rolled up and canopied the scene, delivering a rain of sparks upon the vessels—two pistol shots rang out, and both Captains dodged unhurt and the packed mass of passengers surged back and fell apart while the shrieks of women and children soared above the intoleral le din——

And then there was a booming roar, a thundering crash, and the riddled Amaranth dropped loose from their hold and drifted helplessly away!

Instantly the fire doors of the Boreas were thrown open, and the men began dashing buckets of water in the furnaces—for it would have been death and destruction to stop the engines with such a head of steam on.

As soon as possible the Boreas dropped down to the floating wreck, and took off the dead, the wounded, and the unhurt—at least all that could be got at, for the whole forward half of the boat was a shapeless ruin with the great chimneys lying crossed on the top of it; and underneath were a dozen victims imprisoned alive and wailing for help. While men with axes worked with might and main to free these poor fellows, the Boreas' boats went about, picking up stragglers from the river.

And now a new horror presented itself. The wreck took fire from the dismantled furnaces! Never did men work with a heartier will than did those stalwart braves with axes. But it was of no use. The fire ate its way steadily, despising the bucket brigade that fought it. It scorched the clothes, it singed the hair of the axmen—it drove them back foot by foot—inch by inch—they wavered, struck a final blow in the teeth of the enemy, and surrendered. And as they fell back they heard prisoned voices saying:

"Don't leave us! Don't desert us! Don't don't do it!"

And one poor fellow said:

"I am Henry Worley, striker of the Amaranth! My mother lives in St. Louis. Tell her a lie for a poor devil's sake, please. Say I was killed in an instant and never knew what hurt me—though God knows I've neither scratch nor bruise this moment! It's hard to burn up in a coop like this with the whole wide world so near. Good-bye, boys—we've all got to come to it at last, anyway!"

The Boreas stood away out of danger, and the ruined steamer went drifting down the stream an island of wreathing and climbing flame that vomited clouds of smoke from time to time, and glared more fiercely and sent the luminous tongues higher and higher after each emission. A shriek at intervals told of a captive that had met his doom. The wreck lodged upon a sand bar, and when the Boreas turned the next point on her upward journey it was still burning with scarcely abated fury.

When the boys came down into the main saloon of the Boreas, they saw a pitiful sight, and heard a world of pitiful sounds. Eleven poor creatures lay dead, and forty more lay moaning, or pleading or screaming, while a score of Good Samaritans moved among them doing what they could to relieve their sufferings; bathing their skinless face and bodies with linseed-oil and lime water, and covering the places with bulging masses of raw cotton that gave to every face and form a dreadful and inhuman aspect.

A little wee French midshipman of 14 lay fearfully injured, but never uttered a sound till a physician of Memphis was about to dress his hurts.

"Can I get well? You need not be afraid to tell me."

"No—I—I am afraid you cannot."

"Then do not waste your time with me—help those that can get well."

"But——"

Help those that can get well! It is not for me to be a girl. I carry the blood of eleven generations of soldiers in my veins!"

The physican—himself a man who had seen service in the navy in his time—touched his hat to this little hero and passed on.

The head engineer of the Amaranth, a grand specimen of physical manhood, struggled to his feet a ghastly spectacle, and strode toward his brother, the second engineer, who was unhurt. He said:

"You were on watch. You were boss. You would not listen to me when I begged you to reduce your steam. Take that!—take it to my wife, and tell her it comes from me by the hand of my murderer! Take it!—and take my curse with it to blister your heart a hundred years—and may you live so long!"

And he tore a ring from the finger, stripping flesh and skin with it, threw it down, and fell dead!

But these things must not be dwelt upon. The Boreas landed her dreadful cargo at the next large town and delivered it over to a multitude of eager hands and warm Southern hearts—a cargo amounting by this time to thirty-nine wounded persons and twenty-two dead bodies. And with these she delivered a list of ninety-six missing persons that had drowned or otherwise perished at the scene of the disaster.

A jury of inquest was impaneled, and after due deliberation and inquiry, they returned the inevitable American verdict, which has been so familiar to our ears all the days of our lives—"Nobody to blame."

ANOTHER NEVADA PHENOMENON.

The Virginia City (Nev.) Enterprise, of December 7, contains the following: "About four o'clock yesterday morning, some of the residents in the western part of this city, were startled by observing what seemed a column of flames fifty or sixty feet in height shooting up out of a shaft near the old Ophir works. It was at first thought that the old timbers in the mine were on fire, and three or four men ran to the spot to see what could be done toward smothering the flames. On reaching the shaft, however, they found that there was no smell of smoke, and also that the supposed fire was a light unlike anything they had ever before seen, in its weird whiteness and in the strange corruscations of its component particles. In the light shed about, the faces of the men wore a corpse like pallor. Two or three of those present, were miners returning from work with their dinner pails in their hands, and it was observed that the pails (tin) appeared of a brilliant steel-blue color. Their clothing and hair also partook in some degree of the same ghastly and unnatural color. The light came up the full size of the large square shaft, and, seen at a distance as it rose up through the falling snow, closely resembled one of the shooting spires seen in the aurora borealis, and it seemed to have something of the same waving and inconstant motion. Although the men felt creeping over them a sort of superstitious awe, they still had a sufficient courage to approach the shaft and gaze into it. A strange sight was here seen. The whole interior of the shaft seemed to be at a white heat, and glowed like a furnace. The timbers on the sides were particularly brilliant, and each splinter, excrescence, or bit of fungus seemed darting dazzling rays that streamed steadily out in all directions. A warm, steamy current of air ascended from the sweltering regions below, and there was observed a sickening musty smell. All those who looked into the shaft afterward felt a severe pain in the temples, and two or three were made sick at the stomach. This singular appearance lasted for nearly half an hour after it was first observed, and before it was all over eight or ten men, mostly miners returning from their work at various mines (it being about the time of changing shifts) had collected about the shaft. The light died out from the top downwards, and protuberances from the side of the shaft continued to glow for some minutes after the light was no longer visible above the top of the shaft. The light would seem to have been caused by the belching forth of some kind of highly phosphorated gas from some of the deep underground chambers in the old abandoned works. The rush of gas—for gas of some kind it must have been—was probably caused by an extensive cave-in some place where the old timbers had rotted away. One of the men who had the good fortune to witness the strange phenomena is of the opinion that the mixing or mingling of the gas from the mine with the atmospheric air had something to do with intensifying the light, as he observed in the ascending current of pseudo flame myriads of small particles of some substance, globules of vapor or something of the kind, which appeared to flash and scintilate as they darted upward, and which presented in the general column of light much the same appearance as motes moving about in a sunbeam. The light was observed by a few persons on B street, but was supposed by them to be a stream of light thrown up into the air, and reflected from the falling snow, by some large reflecting lantern."

NEW YEAR'S EVE.

The years go by with silent tread;
And some are distant, some are dead
That once were dear;
And, as I sit alone to-night,
And sadly watched the fading light,
The dying year,
Full many a mem'ry of the tomb,
Of many a mad and merry time,
Of funeral knell and wedding chime
Came gath'ring with the early gloom.
And faces long forgot were there,
And voices hushed forever spoke,
And recollections hard to bear
That twilight revery awoke.

These marks along the stream of years,
These strokes upon the fatal bell,
They are but monuments of grief and tears,
The chime is but a funeral knell;
For griefs recalled are griefs renewed again;
And joys remembered—they are sadder yet.
Oblivion brings alone her joys to men,
And happiness is only to forget.

CHARLES N. GREGORY.

NEW YEAR'S DAY IN MY ATTIC.

[Translated for The Post from the French of Emile Souvestre, by Miss E. L. S.]

January 1st.—This date has clung persistently to my thoughts ever since I awoke. One year more has broken from the chain of centuries and fallen into the abyss of the Past! The crowd presses forward to greet her young sister, but whilst all eyes seem to gaze into the future, mine are looking backward. *They* smile upon the new queen, and I, in spite of myself, think of her whom time has just wrapped in her winding sheet. At least I know something of that one, what she was and gave me, while this presents herself, attended by all the menacing uncertainties of the unknown. What does she bring concealed in the clouds which envelop her? Is it storm or sunshine?

At the present moment it drizzles dismally, and I feel my spirits as foggy as the atmosphere without. I have a holiday; but what to do with a whole rainy day? I survey my garret sulkily, and decide to make a fire. Unhappily, the matches burn badly, the chimney smokes, the wood goes out. I throw down the bellows in vexation, and sink into my old arm-chair.

After all, why should I especially rejoice to see the birth of a new year? Do all the people who are already on the streets with a holiday aspect and smiles on their lips—do they understand why they are joyous? Do they know what this fete signifies, and how the custom of *etrennes* (New Year's gifts) originated? Here my mind stops its train of thought to prove to itself its superiority over the common mind. I introduce a parenthesis into my ill-humor, and there write the proofs of my superior knowledge.

(The ancient Romans divided the year into ten months only; it was Numa Pompilius who added January and February. The first took its name from Janus, to whom it was sacred. As it opened the new year its entrance was attended with happy presages, and from thence arose the custom of visits among neighbors, mutual wishes of prosperity and gifts. The presents used among the Romans were symbolical. Dried figs were offered, dates and honeycombs as emblems of "the sweetness of the auspices under which the year should begin its course!" also, a small coin called stips, which was an augury of riches.) Here I close my parenthesis to resume my cross-grained meditations. The little speech which I have just addressed to myself has made me better satisfied with myself and rather more contemptuous of others. I might breakfast well to relax my mind, but the portress has forgotten my morning's milk, and the chocolate pot is empty! Another would be provoked; I—I affect the most superb indifference. There is left in my cupboard only a hardened loaf, that I break my strength of hand, and which I proceed to crunch nonchalantly like a man quite above the vanities of the world,—and soft rolls. However, I know not why my thoughts gradually grew sombre under the influence of difficult mastication. I read once upon a time a story of an Englishman, who hung himself because a cup of tea had been served him without any sugar in it. There are hours in life when the most trifling contradiction assumes the proportions of a catastrophe. Our humor resembles an opera-glass which shows objects diminished or enlarged, according to the end we happen to look through. As a general thing, the prospective which is spread before my window delights me. It is a conglomeration of roofs whose tops interlace, cross, rest upon each other in intricate fashion, and through which the tall chimneys boldly thrust themselves. Only yesterday I found on them imaginary mountains, and was waiting for the first snow to see there miniature glaciers; to-day I perceive nothing more than tiles and stove pipes. The pigeons who yesterday helped on my rustic illusions, seem now nothing more than miserable flying things who have taken the roofs for a poultry yard; the smoke which rises in curling wreaths, instead of making me think of the crater of Vesuvius, reminds me of culinary preparations, and the steam therefrom; finally, the telegraph pole that I perceive on the distant old tower of Montmartre, strikes me as resembling a shameful gibbet whose arms stretch themselves far above the city. Thus rounded by everything they encounter, my eyes turn their regard to the hotel which faces my *mansarde*. The influence of New Year's Day is there visibly felt. The servants have an air of importance, proportioned to the value of the gifts received or to come. I see the proprietor crossing the court with the ill-concealed moroseness which compulsory generosity gives. The visitors increase, followed by *commissionaeris* who carry flowers, boxes and toys. All at once the porte-cochere is thrown open, a new carriage drawn by thorough-bred horses, stops at the foot of the steps. These are, without doubt, the presents given by the husband to the mistress of the mansion, for she comes herself to examine the new equipage. She shortly after gets into it, with a little girl decked out in laces, velvet and plumes, and laden with gifts, which she is going to distribute as *etrennes*. The door is closed, the glass raised and the carriage rols away.

Thus all the world make to-day an interchange of good wishes and presents. I alone, I seem to have nothing to give or to receive. Poor solitary I know not one chosen being to whom I could proffer or who would value my congratulations. My good wishes for a happy new year may then only seek out those unknown friends, lost in the throng which surges below.

To you first, anchorites in cities for whom death and poverty have made a solitude in the midst of multitudes! Melancholy toilers, condemned to eat in silence and loneliness the bread so hardly earned each day, whom God has severed from the soft pangs of either love or friendship—good wishes! To you, visionary dreamers, who go through life with eyes turned toward some polar star, whilst you tread with indifference upon the rich harvests of of reality good wishes! To you, brave fathers, who prolong your working hours to maintain the family!—poor wives who weep and toil over a cradle; young men striving to open for yourselves a road through life, wide enough to lead therein a chosen wife; to you, all valiant soldiers of labor and of sacrifice, good wishes! Finally, to all, whatever may be your title and your name, who love the beautiful, who pity the suffering, who go through the world like the fabulous virgins of Byzantium, with arms extended to the human race! Good wishes! Here I am suddenly interrupted by chirpings, which grow more numerous and more loud. I look about me and behold my window is surrounded with sparrows, who pick at the crumbs of bread which in my absent-minded meditations I have just scattered on the roof. At this pretty sight a ray of sunshine brightens up my saddened heart. An instant since I deceived myself in complaining that I had nothing to give. Thanks to me the sparrows of the quarter will have their etrennes! Noon. A knock at my door; a poor girl enters and greets me by name. I no not recognize her at a first glance, but she regards me smilingly. Ah! it is Paulette, but it is nearly a year since I last saw her, and Paulette is no longer the same. The other day she was a child, to-day she is verging on to womanhood. Paulettes thin, pale, wretchedly clad, but it is always the same eye, clear, frank, straightforward; the same mouth smiling at every word as if to engage your kindness, The same timid voice, soft and besecching. Paulette is not pretty, she might even be called ugly, but I find her charming. Not by reason of what she is, but perhaps from what she recalls one of my happiest memories. It was the evening of a public holiday. Illuminations ran their lines of fire along our monuments; a thousand banners fluttered in the night wind; the fireworks were just kindling their showers of flame in the middle of the *Champ-de-Mars*. All at once one of those inexplicable panics which sometimes seize upon large assemblages, fell upon the close-pressed ranks of gazers; they screamed, they rushed; the feeble stumbled, fell, and the frantic crowd crushed them under their reckless feet. Escaping as by a miracle from the melee, I was about to leave the place when the shrieks of an almost perishing child drew me back. I forced my way into that human chaos and after unheard-of efforts rescued Paulette at the peril of my own life. That was two years ago. Since, I have seen the little one at long intervals, and had almost forgotten her, but Paulette has the memory of a good heart, she comes at the beginning of the year to offer me kind wishes. She brings me besides, a violet plant in full flower. She herself transplanted and tended it; it is a possession which belonged most fully to her, for it was reared. Thanks to her thoughtfulness, care and patience. The plant was grown in a common flower pot, and Paulette, who is a box-maker, has covered it with varnished paper, embellished with fanciful paintings. The ornament's might have been in better taste, perhaps but one feels none the less the kindly intention. This unexpected gift, the modest bashfulness of the young girl and her stammered compliments, dissipate like a sun-beam the sort of fog which enveloped my heart; my feelings change quickly from the sombre hues of dusky twilight to the rosy tints of sunrise. I make Paulette sit down, and question her gaily. She answers at first in monosyllables, but soon our roles are reversed and it is I who interrupt with hasty interjections her long narration. The poor child leads a hard life. Orphaned long since, she, with brother and younger sister, are under the charge of an aged grandmother, who has kept them out of misery, as she puts it. However, Paulette helps her now-a-days in the manufacture of pasteboard boxes. Her little sister, Perrini, is learning to sew, and Henri is an apprentice in a printing office. All would go well were it not for losses, and want of work, for the need of clothes that will wear out, and appetites which cry for food, and the winter which compels them to buy a substitute for the sunlight! Paulette complains that candles burn too quickly and wood is too dear. The chimney of their attic is so big that a great boy placed in it looks like a mere match, that it is so close to the roof that the wind drives down the rain which freezes on the hearth in cold weather, also, they had had to give it up and content themselves with an earthen chafing-dish on which to do their cooking. The grandmother had bargained for a stove with a second-hand dealer living on the ground floor, but he asked seven francs and the times are too hard for so heavy an expense, the family is in consequence resigned to be cold for the sake of of economy!

In proportion as Paulette talks I feel myself drawn more and more out of my deep despondency. The first revelations of the little *carlon mire* have created within me a wish which has already developed into a project. I ask her about her plans for the day, and she informs me that after leaving me she was to visit with her brother, sister and grandmother their different places of employment. My scheme is also fixed upon. I tell the child I will go to see them in the evening, and bid her good-bye with renewed thanks. The pretty plant has been placed in the open window, where a stream of sunshine bids it a warm welcome; the birds are warbling all about, the horizon has cleared up, and the day which came in so gloomily has become radiant. I look around my room, singing. I dress myself; I go out.

Three o'clock. All is arranged with my friend the hardware man. He is repairing my old stove, which I have had replaced, and promises to make it as good as new. At five o'clock we are to leave together, to put it in its place, at the home of Paulette's grandmother.

Midnight. All has passed off well. At the hour stated I was at the old *cartonniere's*, who was still absent. My Piedmontese fixed the stove, while I arranged back of it in the big chimney-place a dozen bundles of wood drawn from my winter store. I will have to do more walking or go to bed earlier. At every step on the staircase my heart was in my mouth. I feared lest they should interrupt my unfinished preparations, and thus spoil my surprise. But, fortunately, no. Behold everything in its place; the fire in the stove burns away with a soft rumble, the little lamp shines upon the table, and the can of oil has been put back in its place upon the shelf.

The *famiste* has left. By this time my fear that they would come too soon gives way to the fear that they will not come at all. At last I hear the childish voices. It is they who push open the door and come in. But they suddenly stop with exclamations of astonishment at the sight of the stove, the lamp and the visitor who stands like a magician in the midst of the marvels he has conjured up; they draw back almost frightened. Paulette is the first to comprehend the arrival of the grandmother, who has mounted more slowly completes the explanation. Then, sensibility! transports of pleasure! thanks upon thanks! But the surprises are not over yet. The little sister opens the oven door and discovers the chestnuts roasting to a turn. The grandmother has just laid her hand upon the bottles of cider which adorn the dresser, and I draw from a concealed basket a prepared tongue, a roll of butter and abundance of fresh white bread. Now astonishment turns to admiration; the little family has never assisted at a similar festival. They set the table, they sit down, they eat; it is a feast for us all, and each one contributes his portion. I only brought the supper, the box-maker and the children furnish the rest—the joy. What shouts of laughter at nothing! What a confusion of questions which wait for no answers—of answers which do not correspond at all the question. The old woman even joins in the gaiety of the youngsters! I have always been struck by the ease with which the poor forget their poverty. Accustomed to live for the present, they make the most of every good thing that turns up.

The rich, pulled upon by custom, gain their happiness more laboriously. With them it takes much to make them consent to enjoy.

The evening passed as an instant. The old woman told me the story of her life, now smiling and again pausing to dry a tear. Perrine started an old fashioned round in her treble childish voice. Henri, who carries proofs to the most illustrious writers of the times, told us anecdotes of them.

It grew late. At last we had to part, not without a renewal of thanks on the part of the grateful family. I returned home with lagging steps, enjoying to the utmost the simple memories of the evening. Moreover, coming years may renew it. I know now that no one is unhappy enough to have nothing to receive, nor nothing to give.

As I came in I encountered the new equipage of my wealthy neighbor, who has also spent the evening out. She sprang from the carriage-step with feverish impatience, and I heard her murmur, AT LAST!

On leaving Paulette's people I had said, ALREADY!

LANDSEER'S WORKS.

PICTURES AND SKETCHES IN THE LATE ARTIST'S HOUSE—THE CHALK DRAWINGS.

[London Daily News.]

The house of the late Sir Edwin Landseer is situated, as most people know, at the end of St. John's Wood road. It is a long, low building, standing in some acres of garden, at the bottom of which runs the Regent's Park Canal. The original of one of the Trafalgar square lions keeps grim watch from under a gigantic tarpaulin kennel on any visitors approaching the house across the gravelled courtyard which lies between it and the road. The painting-room is a large bare room, with two high windows facing north. Great doors with rusty hinges open into the garden, and through them came the horses, dogs, dead lions, and all sitters that were not human. A hobby-horse, with a side saddle, and the numerous straps and buckles correctly adjusted, attests the painter's fidelity to all the minuter accessories of his art. In one corner stands the huge couch, covered with a tartan, on which the painter spent many hours of the last few years of his suffering life. Two busts of the Queen, at different ages, attract every eye, placed as they were in the master's lifetime almost in the centre of the room; while his stand of half-emptied color-tubes, and even the raised chair occupied by his sitters, are just as he left them. The walls and ceiling are toned by age into a harmonious gray, which did not attract the painter's sight from his work, and pleased him far better, so he was used to say, than the glaring whiteness and cleanliness dear to less artistic eyes.

The pictures and sketches will not be seen by the public till the spring, when they are expected to realize from £50,000 to £80,000. Some of them were commissions, painted for persons—many of them great and noble—who displeased the artist either by factious criticism or by some real or fancied slight, and whom, therefore, he would never allow to have the pictures at all. Some of them were thrown aside in the ardor of a new composition, and solicitation could never awaken the painter's wandering interest in them again. Many of the sitters are dead whose portraits are scattered over the room; the beautiful young ladies have grown old, and some of the babies have large families of their own. There are two finished pictures—one the "Lady Godiva," which was exhibited some years ago, and is therefore well known to the public; the other is a portrait of the Duchess of Teck, painted when the Princess was about seven years old. She stands beside an enormous New Foundland dog, who is patiently awaiting the word of command to toss up and eat the piece of biscuit lying on his nose. One little finger is raised, and the child's full face is turned toward the spectator, while from the rounded shoulder, slipping out of the velvet frock, to the pretty little foot in its satin shoe, every detail is finished with an exquisite minuteness which is never obtrusive but which combines to form a whole of extraordinary beauty. The resemblance of the child to the mature and well-known face of the Princess is very striking. A trifling criticism made by the Duchess of Cambridge on the color of the child's dress so angered the painter that he refused to part with the picture at all, although he had at first accepted a commission to paint it for £100. It is expected to realize £3,000 at the forthcoming sale. A portrait of the Queen, taken when she was first married, leaning against a rough chalk-sketch, in chalk, which was to have represented Prince Albert caressing a cockatoo, will have many admirers. The girlish figure of the young Queen and the trustful repose of her attitude are rendered with a few bold and powerful touches which speak the master. A nearly finished head of the Duchess of Argyll, the fair hair arranged in bands and wreathed with field flowers, is a very delicate and graceful study. The most prominent canvas in the painting-room is an enormous study of an otter hunt. This is, however, extremely unfinished, though the excellence of the composition, its noble and striking grouping, and the sense of hurry and motion conveyed by a few rough touches, will appeal even to the most inartistic section of the public. Another very large canvas is a study of a lion roaring as only Sir Edwin Landseer could make a painted lion roar; and in contrast to this is the nearly finished picture (not a portrait) of a charming lady with a birch broom, entitled "A Witch." Probably the most admirable study is a finished head of Gibson, the sculptor, which it is believed will be presented by the family to the Royal Academy. Those who were familiar with the keen, thoughtful face of the great sculptor will immediately recognize this striking likeness; while every one will acknowledge the power, breadth, and finish of the painting. Among other portraits is one of the late David Roberts; a large composition with the head of the Duke of Devonshire rubbed in, and the more than half finished face and figure of the Marchioness of Westminster beside him; an exquisite portrait of the Duchess of Abercorn, holding a rattle to amuse the baby on her lap, the present Countess of Durham; and a portrait of the late Duke of Wellington, three parts finished. Another portrait of the Duke occurs in a small picture representing a review of the Guards by the Queen, who is on horseback, attired in a red habit crossed by the Blue Ribbon of the Garter. Among the less finished pictures is a learned Dog, with the ace of hearts in his mouth; a small study of a Highland woman with her child, and a portrait of a young Sheridan who died of consumption, with Mrs. Brinsley Sheridan and her child beside her chair—a very unfinished composition. In addition to these important works in oil are a number of crayon drawings and a sketch in water color. Some of the latter are marvels of fulness and purity of color; notably a scene in a church at Mechlin dated 1840, and a finished head of a Scotch Shepherd. Others again with a few lines convey an impression of ease and mastery over technical difficulties. Such is the sketch of "Kissing the Relics," Mechlin, 1840; and another which is little more than an outline, of peasants' heads and figures, done at Hastings in the same year, proves what the artist's multiform powers were, in whatever direction he chose to exert them.

The gems of the collection are undoubtedly the chalk drawings. Of these there may be perhaps a hundred, or even more. Few of them exceed a foot in length, by some twelve or fifteen inches in breadth, and they will probably be within the reach of most buyers of ordinary means. It would be hard to find more exquisite examples of the master. They consist of heads of horned sheep, of stags, of oxen, of otter-hounds of deer hounds, of every creature which his pencil loved to depict. His best and happiest moods are recorded in these admirable studies from nature. They hang side by side with his diplomas, one of which, signed with the scarcely less famous name of Thomas Lawrence, the then President of the Royal Academy, places the young painter on the roll of associates in 1826 at the age of twenty-four. His diploma as Royal Academician follows, dated some seven years later, and his knighthood in 1850 is still fresh in the memory of his contemporaries. The collection he leaves behind him, though it can add nothing to his fame, will do it no dishonor; and when the great names of the age come to be called over by future generations the name of Edwin Landseer will not be the least of that illustrious roll-call.

VARIETIES.

THE writings of a fashionable novelist were neatly summarised as being always "in the superlative degree and imperative mood."

A RECENT letter from Metz says that the French citizens are still leaving in considerable numbers, as fast as they can arrange their affairs.

"WHAT comes after T?" asked a teacher of a small pupil who was learning the alphabet. He received the bewildering reply, You do—to see "Lize."

A BROOKLYN man, who never had a sweetheart, says he takes solitary satisfaction in standing around the railroad depots and seeing the women hug.

AN old lady of Jackson, Tenn., has asked the city authorities to exempt her from city taxes as "she seldom walks over their sidewalks or pavements."

"DO try and talk a little common sense!" exclaimed a sarcastic young lady to a visitor. "Oh!" was the reply; but wouldn't that be taking an unfair advantage of you?"

A MAN in Westmoreland county, named Dick, is said to have named his son New Constitution Dick, because the infant was born on the day on which the new Constitution was voted for.

A SOUTHERN editor announces his intention of securing a hall, if one of sufficient dimensions can be found, for the purpose of holding a convention of the authors of "Beautiful Snow."

AT a meeting lately held by the leading merchant tailors of Boston, it was resolved to publish in two of the daily papers a list giving the names and residences of such customers as are backward in paying for the garments furnished them.

ROSES are precious in Germany. Documents exist to prove that nearly one thousand years ago the stone roof of Hildesheim Cathedral, in Germany, was raised in order to protect and give room to a growing rosebush. It still grows and flourishes.

AN advertisement in an Irish paper, setting forth the many conveniences and advantage to be derived from metal win dow sashes, among other particulars observed "that those sashes would last forever—and afterwards, if the owner had no use for them, they could be sold for old iron."

THE meanest man is always coming to the surface, but it is too bad that Christmas should develop him this time. He lives at Salem, Mass., and is a landlord. He raised his rents on learning that a charitable society was about to assist some of his needy tenants.

THE ages of notable persons now spoken of in France are as follows: President MacMahon, 65; Comte de Chambord, 53; Prince Louis Napoleon, 18; Comte de Paris 35; Duc de Chartres, 33; Duc de Nemours, 59; Prince de Joinville, 55; Duc d'Aumale, 51: Prince Jerome Napoleon, 51; M. Thiers, 76; M. Gambetta, 38.

A GENTLEMAN at a dance remarked to his partner, a witty young lady, that the "room was too close—he must go out and get some air." After an absence of half an hour he returned, when she asked him if he had not been to the graveyard, as his breath smelt of the beer."

As Hattie Eva Murray, of Abington, Mass., was making her toilet to be married, a few evenings since, she was suddenly taken ill, and remained in an unconscious state most of the time till the second day after, when she died. She was robed for burial in her wedding dress.

A YOUNG man at Austin, Nev., the other day made a serious mistake. He bought a handsome dress pattern for his sweetheart and a pair of red flannel drawers for himself. He delivered the wrong bundle to the young lady. Result—a broken head and a ruined frying pan.

THE ready-made clothing dealers in Chicago appeal to the cupidity of chance customers to get rid of their shop-worn garments. They put a fat pocket-book in an inner pocket, tell the stranger that the "coat was made for Mr. St. Clair, one of our wealthiest citizens, but it being too tight across the back he returned it, after wearing it but once." The customer feels the pocket-book, pays the price asked for the coat, and hastens away, being "in a hurry to catch the train." He probably catches the train, as he never comes back with the stuffed pocket-book.

THEY have been having some lively tornadoes lately in California. One of them struck Milton, Calaveras county, and a correspondent thus describes its effect: "For a few minutes during which the terrible visitation l

Weekly Post.

Pittsburgh, Saturday, Jan. 3, 1874.

THE Supreme Court now consists of four partisans and one pervert.

THE Courier-Journal has found out how to retrench. It suggests paying Grant's salary in bull-pups at $1,000 per pup.

THE Radical stronghold of Lancaster gives the largest vote against the new Constitution, outside of Philadelphia.

AND now the Swoope don't like the new Controller, Snodgrass. He is getting might hard to please of late—even the new Constitution don't suit him

PRESIDENT GRANT partook of the baked meats of his father-in-law's funeral with Gen. Harney at St. Louis. Mourning and feasting do sometimes go together.

THE speculators and Credit Mobilerites are again endeavoring to fire the popular heart and make war on Spain. They are getting out of meat and want to do the stealing.

IT required 43,000 street car tickets, paid for out of the U. S. Treasury, to supply the Radical Administration bummers at Washington for one year.

IN case Judge Williams is not confirmed by the Senate, it is said he will accept the position of Minister to Spain, that is, provided Grant will appoint him and Mrs. Williams does not object.

R. M. SNODGRASS was elected City Controller by Councils yesterday, to fill the unexpired term of M'Gowan, resigned. We suppose we must accept this as Civil Service reform, as Snodgrass held a position in that office under the late incumbent.

THE names of the three members of the Constitutional Convention who did not sign the new instrument are: George Lear, Republican, of Bucks; James Boyd, Democrat, of Montgomery, and James L. Reynolds, Republican, of Lancaster.

WE always thought that the prophecy about the dark days would come true sooner or later. Yesterday the fog was so dense that the old philosopher going around with a lantern at noonday would not have been considered a natural born fool, unless he was looking for an honest Radical official.

THE great Black warrior of York it is hoped will soon be on the war-path again. The most recent adornments of his belt are the capillary glories of Vice President Wilson and of Charles Francis Adams. He will probably next go to Kentucky, long famous for its hunters, to look after the scalp of the sneaking fellow Joseph Holt.

THE Republican Ring of Philadelphia insists upon having an election for Mayor and other officers in February next, instead of 1875. We presume the advantage expected by this movement is to be derived from the present registry law, the Legislature in the meantime refusing to pass a uniform law as provided in the new Constitution.

IT is stated that President Grant will not offer intoxicating drinks to New Year's callers, but this does not imply that he will not drink any himself. We have it from undoubted authority that he was very drunk on the cars during his recent return from St. Louis, where he we went to attend the funeral of his father-in-law.

WE call attention to an article we publish elsewhere, showing what manner of man G. H. Williams, Grant's nominee for Chief Justice is. His shameless attempt to stop the investigation of the Hipple-Mitchell frauds, is quite enough to determine his total unfitness for the high judicial office to which he aspires.

MESSRS. VERNER & CO., proprietors of the marble works, No. 286 Penn avenue have our thanks for a ponderous Italian marble paper weight, surmounted with a finely cut water-lily and the word "POST" cut and inlaid with gold on the sides of the base. Notwithstanding the water-lily is an emblem of purity, a friend at our elbow has the assurance to say that a rooster would have suited us better. The sculpturing is really fine and creditable to the Messrs. Verner & Co.

AT the time of the great financial panic, Grant and Secretary Richardson were emphatic in their declarations that the $44,000,000 reserves could not be issued without the authority of Congress. Congress has given no authority for the issue of the reserve, yet $21,000,000 of it has already been issued and it is going out daily. According to their own reiterated decision, Grant and his Secretary have violated and are violating the law in issuing these reserves.

PRESIDENT GRANT has appointed Hon. Caleb Cushing as Minister to Spain in the place of Sickles, whose resignation has been accepted. While Mr. Cushing's political course of late years, has been anything but creditable to him, he is a man of very decided ability, and the wonder is that Grant appointed him. We thought it much more likely that the lightning would strike our own Swoope than Cushing. But perhaps Swoope is being held in reserve for Chief Justice. Who knows?

FOR the last ten years the stuffing of ballot-boxes and the committing of any kind of election frauds was not considered uncivil in Philadelphia. Men who were known to have obtained office by fraudulent means were to be seen at the social gatherings of many gentlemen of pure minds and manners—and exalted position. It is to be hoped that the *salons* of the really honest aristocracy of Walnut street and Rittenhouse Square will be closed for the future to reprobates like Bill Elliott, Bill Mann, Bunn and their coadjutors. Let the blue-blood of Philadelphia no longer endure this needless contamination.

THE strike of the locomotive engineers on the Pennsylvania Co's roads west of this city has greatly impeded trade and travel to and from this point. While the strikers at this point have demeaned themselves in a quiet manner, reports of violence come to us from western points, and it has become necessary to send detachments of police on the trains to protect them. The Governor of Ohio has been requested to call out the militia. Strikes generally accomplish but little good, and acts of violence especially, work the greatest of injury to the striking parties.

ALTHOUGH the Union League pretends to have gone out of the business of superintending the election frauds of Philadelphia, which it calls "*retiring from politics!*" its subordinate branches will still continue the nefarious business as heretofore—or try to continue it. The "Mysterious Pilgrims" of Mann, Elliott & Co., and the "Ten-Forty Club" of the exemplary Bunn, will still look to the interests of the Ring and the repeaters. Their first business will be to defend the cases or buy pardons for certain gentlemen now soon to be indicted for ballot box-stuffing. We will bet a trifle that the Union Leaguers will contribute money to this purpose, although they are out of business.

HON. W. A. WALLACE has resigned the Vice-Presidency of the Texas and Pacific Railroad company, and will be found in his seat in the Pennsylvania Senate at the opening of its session. We heartily concur with the Age when it says: "This will be the twelfth consecutive session for Senator Wallace, and his large experience, legal ability and force as a debater will be of great value in shaping the legislation that is essential to give scope and effect to the provisions of the new Constitution. During more than half the years he has spent in the Senate, he has been the recognized leader of his party there, and we look with confidence to him now as an eminently safe conservative and able guide."

THE Beaver Radical accepts the new Constitution, but don't like the situation. It is sad beyond comfort at the prospect that Republican rule is at an end, and that Democrats are serenely contemplating a repossession of their own. Among the reasons furnished by the Radical for this conclusion is the change of time in holding the election when a President is to be elected from October to November. How this can diminish the Republican vote, we can't see, unless it is meant for a confession that Pennsylvania has hitherto been carried in October preceding the Presidential elections by imported votes. What honest Republican will admit this to be a reason for opposing the Constitution? If that part has not a majority of the legal votes of the State, it stould not rule, and in the light of recent events who believes it has?

INVESTIGATION into the expenses of the Executive department shows that not only has the President's salary been doubled, but all the expenses connected therewith have also been doubled. The appropriations made for the Executive office during the year 1867—the last of Johnsions Administration — were as follows: Compensation of the President, $25,000; salaries of private secretary, assistant secretary, clerks, steward, and messenger, $6,100 contingent expenses, $4,000; total, $35,100. This year the estimates for the same are: Compensation of the President $50,000; salaries of private secretaries, clerks, steward, and messenger, $15,300; contingent expenses, $6,000; total, $71,300. The duties of President Grant are no greater than those of Johnson, nor has there been any legitimate increase of expenses, and yet they have been doubled, and are likely to still further increase, so as to absorb at least $100,000 per year. It is such reckless waste of money as this, that makes increased taxation necessary.

IN a late issue of Harper's Weekly we find the following plain words concerning Grant and his appointee to the Chief Justiceship, Mr. Williams. The time was when the Weekly did not speak so plain, but that only makes its expressions all the more forcible now:

"We have already stated that the nomination of Mr. Williams to be Chief-Justice of the United States had surprised the country. We may now add that it seems to have outraged the profession. Meanwhile the delay in confirmation is fatal to public confidence in the magistrate. The character, the professional learning, the general standing of the candidate should be so conspicuous as to make confirmation a mere form. Delay is as decisive as action. It is the kind of silence which is most eloquent. And the hesitation of the Senate can only mean that it thinks the nomination ought not to be confirmed. Should that be its real feeling, its course is plain. It is not a question of pleasing the President. It is of advising and consenting to an appointment for life to the highest judicial station in the country, involving the most important responsibilities. Senators are now summoned to one of their most serious official acts, and every patriotic, party, and personal consideration should plead with them not to forget it."

(From the Daily Post of Thursday.)

CHRISTMAS.

How the Gulf of Time is bridged, and what strange mutations warp and change the world's face. Eighteen hundred and seventy-three years ago this morning, the Judean Shepherds were wakened from their slumbers by the rare and strange effulgence of the Star of Bethlehem, that, shining out of the golden chambers of the East, clothed the whole Universe in a wondrous garment of happy prophecy. That star led the wise men from the palace of the bloody tyrant to the humble hostelrie in Bethlehem, where the infant Savior slept sweetly in the encircling arms of his mother Mary. Bowing before him, they offered their treasures—the rarest gifts that had been snatched from the deep delvedminesthat sweltered beneath the tropical sun, myrrh and incense brought from beyond the burning dunes of the deserts, and then it was that the angel of the Lord whispered to them not to return to the murderous hypocrite who had sent them forth as unconscious spies, but to hasten into a far country there to await the fuller coming of the Son of Man.

What more graphic description of the premeditated murder of the godless Herod can be given than these words of the Evangelist:

Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men.

Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying,

In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

That soulless Governor—the tool and liotor of barbarian and pagan Rome, sleeps in the bosom of mother earth, and his name survives only as a monument of enduring infamy. But the infant whose life he sought by a general slaughter of the innocents, has changed the world's destiny and reclaimed the wilderness of paganism in all the kingdoms between the rising and the setting of the sun.

Herod hoped to celebrate this day eighteen hundred and seventy-three years ago by slaying the Messiah, and in his attempt, turned every house of Judea into a house of mourning, while to-day it is the signal of general joy throughout all the length and breadth of Christendom—and the purest and brightest and sweetest of all this joy is that of the little ones. It is indeed a time of peace on earth and good will toward men.

We shall not intrude upon our readers this morning with Christmas carols, or pious disquisitions, but leave it to each to supply them for themselves. There is a wide world in which each may work in imitation of the works of Him who suffered all the ills that flesh is heir to, to work not only spiritual, but material good to mankind. Study well the lesson of His mission on earth, and practice it, if you would have a merry Christmas in fact and not in name.

A CHRISTIAN FIRM.

We have before us a circular from the Christian banking house of David Preston & Co., of Detroit. It is printed on white paper with purple ink, and is one of the most pious financial circulars it has ever been our fortune to peruse. After setting forth the fact that on the 27th day of September, the firm suspended with more than a million of demand liabilities, the circular says:

September 27th, after the financial wave had rolled over us, and crushed us for the moment to the earth, trusting, not in National Banks; not in Savings Banks, not in our friends, who had done business with us and stood with us and by us, some of them for more than twenty years, but trusting in the Lord, we said: "There's light ahead—there's help in God. There's wealth in Jesus—there's power in prayer."

It then goes on to state that up to the 15th of December, the firm paid off $650,000. In answer to their own question as to how this sum of money was paid, they say that they "have paid it in *faith*, in greenbacks, in National currency" and certain municipal bonds, none of our water bonds, we believe, being enumerated.

This idea in finances is so eminently worthy those two great Christian statesman, Schuyler Colfax and O. O. Howard, that we are fully persuaded that they are silent partners in the banking house of Preston & Co. To fail for a million dollars, and then draw on the "wealth there is in Jesus," to clear away the financial wreck in a trifle over six weeks, develops a power in prayer hitherto sadly neglected by the financial guild.

Had Grier and Ross and the Water Bond Commission understood the efficacy of prayer in the hour of financial distress as perfectly as Preston & Co. appear to have understood it, Mr. Grier need not have fled to parts unknown, Mr. Ross would still have been Secretary of the Board, and the Commission itself would not have found it necessary to resign. When the Nation Trust Company was in the midnight of eclipse, if Mr. Grier had not trusted to that "friend" and to Jamison & Co., but adopted for his motto and rule of action "there's wealth in Jesus—there's power in prayer," he could have met the liabilities of the bank as easy as rolling off a log.

Faith and prayer having bridged the gulf of bankruptcy for Messrs. Preston & Co., we shall expect hereafter in times of financial trouble and distress, to behold an edifying sight in our banking houses. Instead of cashiers, officers and directors, tearing their hair and rending the air with curses when depositors and bill-holders beseige their counters, the President, adjusting his white choker will say: "Brethern and sisters let us pray—there's wealth in Jesus—there's power in prayer," and thus send their creditors home, full of joy and celestial currency, which moth cannot corrupt nor thieves break in and steal.

Then to pay off one's debts "in faith" is an excellent idea. No pig-headed Secretary of the Treasury nor godless board of brokers in Wall street, can bull or bear the market. One can never overdraw his account on the bank of faith, and a stringency in the market would be an impossibility. With this beautiful theory of banking fully inaugurated, there would be no more bankruptcy, no more suspensions, no more defaulting cashiers, no more widows or orphans cheated out of their little savings—in short the financial millenium will be upon us in its full blaze of glory.

This pious circular sheds a new light upon us, and we feel that we have many things to retract, and many harsh words to atone for. We have spoken harshly concerning such noble Christian statesmen as Howard, and Colfax, and Ames, and Harlan and Bingham, *et id omne genus*, for their connection with the Freedman's Bureau, Credit Mobilier and salary grab business, but now we are satisfied that we entirely mistook their motives. Instead of stealing the people's money, they were practicing Christian financiering—they were drawing on the bank of faith and exemplifying the power of prayer.

We commend this theory, so beautifully set forth by Preston & Co., to our national and local Republican financiers. Let Boutwell proceed at once to pay off the National Debt, at the rate of a thousand million dollars per year. Our city authorities can wipe out our municipal liabilities in the course of a fortnight, and forever make straight the little irregularities that have been going on for some time. Preston & Co. have solved the great financial problem, and the country should be correspondingly happy.

THE WAY THEY DO IT.

As a speciman of the way in which the Philadelphia Ring has heretofore controlled the election, we append the following from the Ledger. The Tenth ward is notable as one of the headquarters of the roughs and repeaters. At the late election the usual attempt at fraud was made, and quiet respectable citizens were clubbed and fired at with pistols, some of them barely escaping with their lives. One of the gang was arrested and the following facts were brought out at the hearing. The Ledger, it will be remembered, is an independent journal:

"The testimony was in effect that on election day John Adams undertook to vote at the election poll, Twenty-first and Tower streets, in the name of Hughes, residing in Summer street, but was unable to get the vote in. At this time Robert Ford, brother of the officer, was with him. From this poll they went to Twenty-second and Vine streets, where Adams again offered to vote, this time in the name of William J. Haney, residing at No. 258 North Twenty-second street. One of the window bookmen remembering that this was the residence of Policeman Campbell, he was sent for, and when he arrived, was asked if he knew John Adams, and he replied that he did not; the next question put to him was, if the man lived at his house, and to this he made answer 'yes,' but professed not to know his name. Adams, who had been seized by Michael McGehan, was now held as a prisoner, and Policeman Wolf, who had come up, was asked to take him to the station, one of the men proposing to go with him. At this stage of the affair, Policeman Ford, who had reached the ground in a carriage, came up with a pistol in his hand, and cried out for the men to stand back. He had no uniform on, nor was his star visible, and the witness declared that he was not known as a policeman. Michael McGehan says he supposed him to be one of the repeaters, which was the reason he picked up a couple of brickbats. As soon as Ford got near him he discharged the pistol, the ball from which passed close to McGehan's head. Ford was then struck with a shovel by Peter McGehan, and knocked down. His pistol was taken from his hand by Robert Ford, who was followed, captured, and the weapon got from him. A blackjack was found on Officer Ford, and his star under the lappel of his coat. Besides the testimony as to the occurrence at both election polls, James A. Swift detailed a conversation which had taken place between John Adams and a tavern-keeper named Devereux, in which the former admitted he was repeating, with others, on election day, for which he either had been or expected to be paid, and that there was a Baltimore gang here engaged in the same work. He mentioned the name of a member of the Legislature as the individual who was managing the business."

THE Telegraph thinks that it would be wandering from Republican principles, did its opinions suit THE POST. Well, it must have wandered then, when it opposed the State Treasury Ring, and also when it favored the new Constitution. THE POST has consistently, and never ceased to oppose the former and favor the latter, whilst the Telegraph was driven into the support of Mackey, and fairly kicked into opposing the Constitution. Do you call that publishing "an able, honest and fearless journal?" Most people outside of the Ring of thieves, denounce it as something just the contrary.

AS it is generally believed that the ring is smashed and that in a year or so its members will have no more opportunities to plunder the people, the question arises what are the organs, such as the Commercial and Telegraph "going to do about it?" Their occupation will be gone and if they can get no more meat of course they will die. The Dispatch is wise—it sees the coming earthquake and has commenced to put its house in order by publishing the truth about Grant and the corrupt crew with which he has surrounded himself. On Saturday it speaks of Grant as Judge Williams "obstinate friend," hints that in case Williams is confirmed that "Mrs. Williams would be likely to run the Supreme Court" and goes after Postmaster General Cresswell, Attorney General Williams and other dignitaries for making the government pony up for "stylish equipages" for their wives and wives' relations. You don't catch the Dispatch napping and if the Commercial and Telegraph are smart they will not hesitate to follow where the Dispatch has lead. If they don't, death is sure to overtake them.

LAW—LYNCH LAW, &C.

Of course there is a cause for everything. Communities, it is presumed, live under the protection of law; and for infringements of the law, those who break the law become subject to its provisions, liable to its penalties, and are punished accordingly. This is the theory. Now, occasionally, in different parts of the country, we have what is called lynch law, vigilance committees, and committees of safety; things not provided for in the Constitutions, or by legislation; but gotten up among the people as it were upon the spur of the moment, and claimed to be in the interest of the well disposed citizens of the community. Such are the facts. Now let us inquire into the primary cause of such proceedings. For the present we leave out any special consideration of lynch law and vigilance committees in newly settled mining regions, where there may not have been time or opportunity to introduce the regular machinery of civilized law; where the best citizens unite to defend themselves against lawless brutes; and confine our examination to civilized, settled regions; where every now and then we have the operation of lynch law, and committees of safety. Something in our organic act, or in our legislation, or in our administration of law, or in our people, is to blame. No necessity for such action outside of regular law should exist; and yet experience shows that communities sometimes consider that lynch law or committees of safety, or some abnormal action of that nature, is justifiable. Not legally so; but that the sense of the law-abiding people is not greatly if at all shocked by the proceeding.

We are inclined to think, that the primary cause, or that condition of things which naturally leads to such abnormal action on the part of even well disposed citizens, consists in a radical error in the mode of action of the legal profession, and in the methods, which are perhaps dependent on that, of our Courts of Justice. It has come to pass, not suddenly, but very gradually, that justice is the most difficult thing to arrive at; and perhaps the greatest of all the sources of litigation is the fact, that real justice, in any cause, is such a weak element, compared with the power of ingeniously manipulating the legal decisions of courts of law, that much more depends upon the manner in which a case is tried, than upon its merit.

It is true, that we still have juries, consisting of twelve men; but the modes in which they are selected do not always conduce to fair trials, so far as the jurors have any option or judgment in the matter. It is true, that the old theory is, that the jury is to judge of the facts, while the court lays down the law of the case. This is still the theory; but the ingenuity of counsel exhausts all conceivable plans for preventing facts from getting to the jury, if those facts appear likely to militate against their client, and the court and not the jury decides what facts are, and what facts are not, to go to the jury as evidence.

In one sense it may be claimed that the jury are still the judges as to the facts. As to what facts? Why such as the counsel and the court permit to be given. No other facts. Thus facts, which might prove and establish the real, actual merits of a case, may, through the ingenuity of counsel and the ruling of the judge, be kept from the jury; while the jury sit there, longing perhaps for the truth, but not getting it. This is stated merely for general exemplification.

When it comes to criminal causes, the evil is much more glaring, and much more dangerous to the community; for as a result of this system, it is almost impossible to convict a rich villain in a way to bring about such punishment as would be freely extended to a poor one.

It is not merely the money of the rich villain; it is the vicious system into which the legal administration of law has fashioned itself through growing custom, by which the money of the rich villain, is enabled to buy *decisions*, not justice. Not that the courts or the counsel, do anything or decide anything which has not received the sanction of precedent, but that, too often, their legal accumen is bent wholly upon carrying a case, in the very face of truth and justice. Our people are not so blind that they cannot see this state of affairs; but in any legal way pointed out by the *law*, they are powerless to remedy it.

State legislatures, City Councils, boards of Aldermen and Courts, are manipulated, so to speak, in the interest of money. The poor devil is hanged; the rich rogue carries his case from one court to another, and pays his way clear out of and above all earthly courts. Not that he hands over money to judges, but that he buys all the legal quibbles, quirks, delays, and subterfuges, which often in the end defy justice and right; while the counsel, and the judges handle all the precedents, accorded to law; and the jury becomes a sort of fifth wheel to the legal wagon. They look on, and guess.

The old fashioned way of having every witness tell all he knows: the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, is not the modern style.

He must only say such things as the counsel and the judge allow him to say. It is not the jury, it is the counsel, and the judge, who determine just how many and what kind of facts shall get to the jury. The very facts, which if allowed to be given, might settle the case, maybe withheld from the jury.

Now when such things have come to be a system, and the body of the people see that the law instead of representing justice, is a game, and nothing more, what more natural than the feeling, that if people want justice they must see to it themselves?

Here, then, we claim, lies the primary cause of lynch law and Committees of Safety; and the remedy is with the legal profession. They, and they alone can reform it.

What difference, practically, can it make to any people, whether the machinery of the law has not yet reached them, or whether when it does reach them it is so manipulated as to become subversive of the ends of justice? Law is not made to be the master of the people, but its faithful servant. The mistake of our modern days, of our fast political men, and statesmen, and office bearers in general, has been, that the people are nothing more than the poor devils that pay the taxes, while the country is represented by the officeholders. The other day, there was some slight evidence that the people are tired of this stuff, and they adopted the only plan open to them, without actual revolution; namely, by voting for a new Constitution. This is only the beginning; the meaning is, that the people at least in Pennsylvania, are tired of being humbugged and paying for it too. It means, that under the new Constitution they will secure such reforms, and discard such abuses as they can; and that what it fails to reach they will in good time obtain through other amendments.

If in spite of all these things, the old machinery is still suffered to grind the people, no one need be surprised at occasional lynch law, however it is to be deplored. Nor need any one be surprised at peaceful organization of Committees of Safety.

The people surely have sense enough to take care of themselves; and if they are prevented in one way, they will do it in some other way.

If in no other way, popular courts can be made, by the people themselves; and parties can agree to try cases before them and bind themselves to submit to their decisions. Popular law can be made by the people. That will be better for them, and cheaper, than such law as they get now. True, it would be better to have only one kind of law; but if the present system of courts and counsel, besides being very costly, fails to meet the requirements of justice, it had better be overslaughed and something better substituted.

It is the rusty, grinding machinery of the law, as it is now conducted that leads to lynch law and committees of safety. The evil does not spring from the body of the people themselves; but the people themselves, obedient to the irreversible law of self preservation, are forced at times into these abnormal proceedings.

THE Philadelphia Ledger prints a special from Harrisburg, giving the official vote of fifty-eight counties in the State, which shows a majority for the new Constitution of 140,914. The reported majorities from the remaining eight counties—Clarion, Delaware, Greene, Indiana, McKean, Luzerne, Potter and Tioga—which are omitted from the table, will increase the majority for the Constitution to about 149,000. The entire vote will not vary much from 360,000. On the morning after the election THE POST claimed the adoption of the new instrument by one hundred and fifty thousand majority, and has stuck to it ever since.

GOV. BOOTH, the newly-elected Senator from California, is an "anti-railroad man," and was elected by the Anti-railroad party as Governor of the State two years ago. He was educated as a lawyer, but became a merchant, and accumulated a large fortune in mercantile pursuits. He is described as a fearless and eloquent speaker, with a well-cultivated mind. Within the last three years he has led to victory in several campaigns the Independent party against both of the "regular" parties, and has made himself extremely popular. Governor Booth is an anti-railroad man only in the sense that he is opposed to monopolies, from which California, and particularly San Francisco, has greatly suffered. His unswerving opposition to such corporations is the main-spring of his popularity in his native State.

GOV. MCENERY of Lousiana denies the truth of Senator Morton's assertion that the "Legislature had twice canvassed the election returns and declared Mr. Kellogg Governor." He says the Senate has been grossly imposed upon, and adds: "The original and only authenticated election returns of the election in Lousiania in November, 1872, are in my possession. They were never in the possession of Mr. Kellogg or his Legislature, and they are the returns upon which I was declared elected Governor."

THE strenuous opposition of one of the leading Republican papers in Pittsburgh to the new Pennsylvania Constitution, backed by the influence of State Treasurer Mackey, seems to have made very little impression on the Republican voters. The vote in Pittsburgh was—For the new Constitution, 8,674; against 1,475; majority, 7,199. In Allegheny City, adjoining Pittsburgh, the vote stood—For the new Constitution, 4,578; against, 215; majority, 4,363. The remainder of Allegheny county added about 4,000 more to these majorities.—N. Y. Post.

DID Deputy Sheriff Shields wake up Monday morning dreaming of the hand organ to which he listened in his youth playing that touching little piece of music beginning:

"You are going far away,
Far away from me, Genet!"

And when he awoke did he continue the strain:

"There is no one left but bondsmen now,
And they, too, may forget?'s

Ah! who shall tell?—N. Y. Tribune.

THE PEOPLE'S VICTORY.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION—OFFICIAL MAJORITY 145,150—FULL OFFICIAL VOTE BY COUNTIES.

The official vote of the State complete is given below in detail by counties. The majority in each county is also given, the majorities in the counties voting against the Constitution being indicated by an asterisk (*).

Counties.	For.	Ag'st.	Maj.
Adams	637	2461	1824*
Allegheny	18315	1895	16420
Armstrong	2456	1017	1439
Beaver	3037	1139	1876
Bedford	2211	774	1437
Berks	9114	1866	7248
Blair	1782	2248	466*
Bradford	4340	1193	3147
Bucks	4445	2935	1510
Butler	3377	498	2881
Cambria	1972	1813	159
Cameron	419	50	369
Carbon	1747	699	1048
Centre	2911	1077	1834
Chester	5630	797	4833
Clarion	2287	945	1342
Clearfield	1425	1222	203
Clinton	2374	161	2213
Columbia	2308	784	1524
Crawford	5608	841	4767
Cumberland	3360	1664	1696
Dauphin	3119	4032	913*
Delaware	1866	797	1069
Elk	592	229	363
Erie	6624	742	5882
Fayette	2727	883	1844
Forest	330	18	312
Franklin	2904	1275	1629
Fulton	893	98	795
Greene	988	1864	876*
Huntingdon	2468	494	1974
Indiana	1589	3152	1563*
Jefferson	1396	912	484
Juniata	931	639	292
Lancaster	8102	4447	3655
Lawrence	2508	223	2285
Lebanon	1576	1849	273*
Lehigh	3072	1897	1175
Luzerne	5689	2501	3188
Lycoming	3814	1747	2606
McKean	1093	64	1026
Mercer	3894	2104	1790
Mifflin	1599	376	1223
Monroe	1640	381	1259
Montgomery	6354	2959	3395
Montour	1065	154	911
Northampton	3245	2581	664
Northumberland	3170	1621	1549
Perry	1491	1916	425*
Philadelphia	59114	24994	34120
Pike	668	63	605
Potter	540	617	68*
Schuylkill	6156	2020	4136
Snyder	408	2236	1828*
Somerset	892	2972	2080*
Sullivan	584	197	387
Susquehanna	2973	331	2642
Tioga	2561	1910	651
Union	1509	317	1282
Venango	4716	189	4527
Warren	2487	128	2359
Washington	4626	638	3988
Wayne	1560	257	1303
Westmoreland	4081	2456	1625
Wyoming	1756	125	1631
York	4514	3091	1423
Total	253744	108594	145150
	108594		
Majority	145150		

THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

APPORTIONMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UNDER THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

[From the Lock Haven Democrat.]

We are indebted to H. A Childs, Esq., for the following interesting table, prepared with his usual care and correctness:

Counties.	Population.	Representatives.
Adams	30,315	2
Allegheny	262,204	14
Armstrong	43,382	2
Beaver	36,148	2
Bedford	29,635	2
Berks	106,701	6
Blair	38,051	2
Bradford	53,204	3
Bucks	64,336	4
Butler	36,510	2
Cambria	36,569	2
Cameron	4,273	1
Carbon	28,144	2
Centre	34,418	2
Chester	77,805	4
Clarion	26,537	1
Clearfield	25,741	1
Clinton	23,211	1
Columbia	28,766	2
Crawford	63,832	4
Cumberland	43,912	2
Dauphin	60,740	3
Delaware	39,403	2
Elk	8,488	1
Erie	65,973	4
Fayette	43,284	2
Forest	4,010	1
Franklin	45,365	3
Fulton	9,360	1
Greene	25,887	1
Huntingdon	31,251	2
Indiana	37,138	2
Jefferson	21,656	1
Juniata	17,390	1
Lancaster	121,340	6
Lawrence	27,298	2
Lebanon	34,096	2
Lehigh	56,796	3
Luzerne	160,755	9
Lycoming	47,626	3
McKean	8,825	1
Mercer	49,977	3
Mifflin	17,508	1
Monroe	18,362	1
Montgomery	81,612	5
Montour	15,344	1
Northampton	61,452	3
Northumberland	41,444	2
Perry	25,447	1
Philadelphia	674,022	38
Pike	8,456	1
Potter	11,265	1
Schuylkill	116,428	6
Snyder	15,606	1
Somerset	28,226	2
Sullivan	6,191	1
Susquehanna	37,523	2
Tioga	35,097	2
Union	15,565	1
Venango	47,924	3
Warren	23,895	1
Washington	48,483	3
Wayne	33,188	2
Westmoreland	58,719	3
Wyoming	14,585	1
York	76,134	4

Population of State, 3,521,791. Ratio on which representation is based, 17,609; half ratio, 8,804. Number of Representatives, 201; see section 17, article 2, of new Constitution.

PHILADELPHIA ELECTIONS.

[From the New York Tribune.]

Philadelphia is agitated with a discussion of the provision of the new Constitution relating to city elections. The terms of office of certain city officers, Mayor, Controller, Receiver of Taxes, City Solicitor, several members of Select Council, and about one-half of the members of the Common Council, does not expire until the end of the year 1874. The new Constitution provides for the holding of city elections on the third Tuesday in February—that is, the officers to succeed the present incumbents will have to be elected in February, 1874, in order to assume their positions in 1875. The present officials are trying to have the election postponed till 1875, thus extending their own term of office two oo three months longer than they were elected for. But this is not the only point the Ring officials are striving for. It is said that good lawyers consider it a grave question, in case there is no election next February, whether the present incumbents would not necessarily hold over until after the election in February, 1877, another full term. The new Constitution seems to be perfectly explicit in declaring that the election must be held next February, and the people will doubtless understand this well enough to defeat this last scheme of a Ring already driven to desperation.

OREGON AROUSED.

A STORM OF INDIGNATION AGAINST ATTORNEY-GENERAL WILLIAMS.

THE HIPPLE-MITCHELL RING SAVED FROM THE STATE PRISON BY THE CANDIDATE FOR CHIEF JUSTICE, AND THE DISTRICT-ATTORNEY WHO TRIED TO INDICT THEM REMOVED.

[From the World Correspondent.]

PORTLAND, Or., December 10.

In the special Congressional election which took place in this State last October there was a repetition of the gross and outrageous frauds in this city that have characterized elections since the railroad company of the State undertook to control its politics. Men prominent in politics and of respectful standing in society openly and shamelessly engaged in buying votes and hiring repeaters. At the term of the State Court held shortly after the election efforts were made to punish the guilty parties. These efforts were only partially successful. Witnesses were run out of the State, bail was procured for those in custody on the charge of election frauds, which was generally forfeited, and the few brought to trial had such advantages on trial as a Court could give, officered, from the Judge down to the bailiffs—with the exception of the Prosecuting Attorney—by men who are accomplices or tools of the Ring that planned and engineered the rascality.

Upon the convening of the United States District Court last month the Grand Jury was instructed by the Judge—M. P. Deady—under the act of Congress of May, 1870, to investigate these alleged frauds and present any person found guilty of engaging in them. The ring, in anticipation of the exercise of the new jurisdiction by the United States Court, had taken the precaution to pack the Grand Jury, through the agency of the Marshal of the district court, who is the only officer of the Court belonging to the ring. This Grand Jury failing to find bills of indictment in this class of cases, District-Attorney Gibbs moved for an order convening a new jury. The grounds of the motion were set forth in the order, and, if true, were undoubtedly sufficient to justify the motion. The Court granted the order and so amended the rule under which juries are selected that the Marshal, instead of selecting the jury alone, is assisted by two United States Commissioners and the manner of proceeding is made to conform as near as possible to the State practice.

The new Grand Jury was convened on the 1st inst. On the 29 of November, two days before this, United States District-Attorney Gibbs received a dispatch from Attorney-General Williams instructing him to move to recind the order empanelling the new jury, and to take no action before such jury until he (Gibbs) telegraphed him (Williams) the neccessity for such action. The following is the extraordinary depatch referred to:

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
November 27, 1873.

To A. C. Gibbs, Esq., United States Attorney, Portland, Oregon:

I am advised that you have obtained an order for a new Grand Jury at this term of the Court, to be summoned in an unusual manner. You are instructed to move to rescind such order, greatly increasing the expenses of the term. I am satisfied the regular grand juries can do the business of the court. Take no action before such jury until you have reported to me the necessity for this extraordinary proceeding and expense.

GEORGE H. WILLIAMS,
Attorney-General.

To this Mr. Gibbs replied at length, setting forth a state of facts which, in the judgment of people here, ought to have satisfied and silenced Attorney-General Williams. In view of the possible interest that the matter may have in explaining the conduct of the Attorney-General, I append it:

PORTLAND, OREGON,
December 1, 1873.

Hon. George H. Williams, Attorney-General, Washington, D. C.

Your telegram was received last Saturday night. In reply, I have to say that it was proven before the last Grand Jury that a state of bribery and repeating was inaugurated in this district at the late Congressional election which was alarming. A bare majority prevented indictments where the guilt was clearly proven. In one case the Grand Jury voted an indictment, and after one night rescinded the indictment by a vote of one majority. Upon investigation I found that deputy marshals were instructed from Portland so summon certain men designated. Supposing that the wheels of justice ought not to be blocked by mistake or corruption, I moved for a new Grand Jury. The Court amended rule number eleven by ordering that hereafter the Clerk, Marshal and United States Commissioners select 150 names from the assessment rolls of this and adjoining counties from which a jury may be selected by lot. A jury so selected is to meet to-morrow. For thus doing my duty I understand representations have been made to you to prevent their meeting and for my removal, as a last resort of corruptionists, to prevent prosecution and cover up rascality. More by letter.

A. C. GIBBS, United States Attorney.

The only answer made by the Attorney General to this communication was the announcement in the press dispatches of appointment of Mr. Gibbs successor. In the meantime the Grand Jury has found some eight or nine bills of indictment in the class of cases named. The trial jury is called for the 16th instant, and the race between justice and the ring is exciting and promises to be close.

The conduct of the Attorney General has produced an excitement in this community that has no parallel in the history of the State. The denunciation of Williams is general. The Oregonian, the leading Republican newspaper in the State, in its issue of this morning says:

"Can it be possible that for the influence and vote of the Oregon Senator, who carries a reputation, besides which the worst name that ever disgraced Congress is as stainless as Diana's robes, the Attorney-General has made himself a party to this last infamy? We have admired Attorney-General Williams and have rejoiced at every step of his promotion through which he reached the high position he now occupies; and we were glad to see the announcement of his probable exaltation to the first place in the national judiciary. But we do not hesitate to say that, unless he can explain away his apparent complicity in the most nefarious transaction of the long series of outrages perpetrated by the ring of corruptionists, he is an unfit and dangerous man to hold the position of Chief Justice of the United States, and his confirmation by the Senate would be a positive calamity and a menace to civil liberty throughout the country."

This extract underates the feeling of a large portion of the Republican party, comprising men who have heretofore been warm friends and supporters of the Attorney-General and the Administration.

Urgent representations are making at Washington, from this State, by this class of Republicans to prevent the confirmation of Williams as Chief Justice. He is generally believed here to have made a corrupt bargain by which he is to receive Hipple-Michell's vote for his confirmation in exchange for the disreputable service for the Hipple-Mitchell ring in attempting to shield members of the latter from prosecution. From what is known of Williams in Oregon, I am not disposed to think that it required any such inducement to procure from him an act even so shameful as this.

[For the N. Y. Evening Post.]

ECHO SONG.

Rebounding, resounding, from rocks on each side,
Now filling with music the long, narrow glade,
Now sending its voice on the breeze far and wide,
From the green waving corn to the forests dark shade.

Retreating, retreating, retreating and meeting,
And ever repeating each sweet, mellow sound;
While slowly and softly the daylight is fleeing,
And evening lets fall her dim curtain around;

As catching the musical silvery chime
Of bells from the tower of the church in the dale,
While weary ones sit in the shade of the lime,
And the cow-boy returns with his herd from the vale.

It falls on the ear of a beautiful child,
Tripping lightly along on her path thro' the dells,
With a sudden delight the fair creature is wild,
And mingles her voice with the sound of the bells.

As harpers, with delicate touch and rare skill,
Bring forth sweet accords from the nicely turned strings,
It plays on her heart and awakens a thrill,
And calls forth the song that she joyously sings.

Thus carolling merrily, laughing with glee,
And clapping her small hands in boundless delight,
She seems, with her movements so airy and free,
A frolicsome fay that comes forth in the night,

E. A. TILLSON.

A CHRISTMAS HYMN.

It was the calm and silent night!
Seven hundred years and fifty-three
Had Rome been growing up to might,
And now was queen of land and sea.
No sound was heard of clashing wars,—
Peace brooded o'er the hushed domain:
Apollo, Pallas, Jove and Mars
Held undisturbed their ancient reign,
In the solemn midnight
Centuries ago.

'Twas in the calm and silent night,
The Senator of haughty Rome
Impatient urged his chariot's flight,
From lordly revel rolling home;
Triumphal arches gleaming swell
His breast with thoughts of boundless sway;
What recked the Roman, what befell
A paltry province far away,
In the solemn midnight,
Centuries ago?

Within that province far away,
Went plodding home a weary boor;
A streak of light before him lay,
Fallen through a half-shut stable door
Across his path. He passed,—for naught
Told what was going on within;
How keen the stars! his only thought,—
The air, how calm, and cold, and thin,
In the solem midnight,
Centuries ago.

O, strange indifference! low and high
Drowsed over common joys and cares;
The earth was still,—but knew not why
The world was listening,—unawares.
How calm a moment may precede
One that shall thrill the world forever!
To that still moment, none would heed,
Man's doom was linked no more to sever,
In the solemn midnight,
Centuries ago!

It is the calm and solemn night!
A thousand bells ring out, and throw
Their joyous peals abroad, and smite
The darkness,—charmed and holy now!
The night that erst no shame had worn,
To it a happy name is given;
For in that stable lay, new born,
The peaceful Prince of earth and heaven,
In the solemn midnight,
Centuries ago.

THE FOG IN LONDON.

[World's Cor.]

LONDON, December 11.—This is the third day of the extraordinary fog which has almost paralyzed all life in London since Tuesday morning. On Tuesday the fog caused the loss of four lives and injuries by the score; yesterday four other persons are known to have drowned in the canals, and, from the large number of missing persons reported to the police, it is feared that many others have met with the same fate. But the most extraordinary disaster caused by the fog has been the effect produced by it upon the cattle on exhibition at the annual show of the Smithfield Club in Agricultural Hall. On Monday, when the show was opened, there was not a single case of indisposition among the large number of cattle that paraded before the judges, and at the present writing at least a third of the number have disappeared from their stalls. The simple explanation that is given is that it is the long continuance of fog vitiating the air of the hall that has occasioned such wholesale destruction amongst the beasts. Anyway, the dismal fact is that since early yesterday morning at least twenty-five of the exhibited animals, many of them the chief prize-holders, have either died or been slaughtered for the sake of saving the value of carcasses, while at seven o'clock last evening a careful enumeration of the empty stalls disclosed the startling truth that it had been thought prudent to remove ninety-three of the unfortunate creatures. Barford street, in which are the gates of the cattle-yard, all yesterday afternoon and evening presented a strange appearance. In the fog and by link-light there was ranged in a long line that extended even beyond the Liverpool road a large number of those peculiarly-shaped vehicles used for the conveyance of sick and disabled animals—great lumbering, clattering boxes on wheels, but known amongst the fraternity that affect them as "floats"—and each in its turn drew up to the yard gates to receive its sorry freightage and hurry off to make room for the next, and the next, of a line that seemed to be endless. In the building the spectacle was strange and striking. The attendance of visitors was as great as is usual on a second shilling day, possibly greater, on account of the rumor that had got abroad of the startling mortality that had seized on the larger animals; but the stalls were not more than a third filled. Sight-seers naturally made for that point where the beast of beasts, Mr. Walter's light gray heifer, was to be seen; but, like many more, that renowned animal had vanished, though whether to the slaughter house or merely to more salubrious quarters could not be ascertained. The fog plague had stricken the poor creatures in the most erratic manner. Here in a whole long row no more than half a dozen vacant stalls might be counted, while in that immediately adjoining as many as five-and-twenty description boards hung idly, many of them gaily decorated with the rosettes and ribbons that denote animals that are specially distinguished. Big and little oxen had alike fallen victims, and the giant of four-and-twenty hundredweight and the compact steer of barely seventeen. Even the tough and wiry natives of the Highlands, with their enormous breadth and depth of chest and healthfulness of lungs, had, in at least two cases been unable to hold out against the deadly gray mist that seemed to be almost as inimical to brute life as fumes of charcoal are to human. It is not easy to conjecture what will be the result supposing that, as on Tuesday, the fog increases and grows blacker and denser towards midnight. It is quite evident that there are scores of the unfortunate creatures who are but ill-prepared for a prolongation of the attack of the wondrous enemy. Within an hour of closing time last night there was not a single beast on his legs; all were lying or kneeling down, and many of them gasping, and with froth on their mouth and nostrils denoting their pitiable condition. It was a sight that the great majority of the visitors had not reckoned on, and instead of, as on ordinary occassions, passing on with all convenient speed along the various avenues, taking note as they went, now were to be seen in fifty different places groups of a hundred or so of men and women crowding around a luckless beast, and unintentionally diminishing his scanty chances of existence. Strangely enough, neither the sheep nor the pigs are to any alarming extent affected by the fog. The latter snore and gasp and make apoplectic gurgling noises in their throats no less and no more than usual, and the sheep, though far from lively, exhibit no grave symptoms.

THE DOGS AND CATS IN PARIS DURING THE SIEGE.

[Leeds (Eng.) Mercur.]

It is a curious question whether animals take notice of the events which are passing round them, but which nevertheless are apparently outside of the sphere of their instinct. M. Theophile Gautier, the well-known French journalist and writer, has raised this question in regard to the animals which were in Paris during the siege; and he brings forward several facts, which he says fell under his own observation, to prove that they not only took notice of passing events, but regulated their movements accordingly. He observes that the dogs took notice, from the first day, of the abnormal condition of Paris. The unusual movements of the inhabitants, the almost universal change from civil to military costume, the exercising of the Mobiles and the National Guards on the public parades, the continual sounding of the trumpet and beating of drums kept them constantly excited and uneasy, and set them to reflecting. Some of them, refugees from the suburbs, with their masters, visibly lost their power of finding their way about. They hesitated in the choice of streets, were uncertain of the traces, scented their path, and, at every corner, consulted some other dog which lived in the neighborhood. These suburban dogs were scared at the noise of passing vehicles, and ran from them, while the city dogs scarcely took the trouble to get out of the way of the wheels. "Every morning" says M. Cansier, "there assembled before our door what appeared to be a council of dogs, presided over by a broad-backed, bandy-legged, brown-and-yellow terrier. The other dogs paid him great deference, and listened to him attentively. It was evident that he spoke to them, not after the manner of men, in an articulate language, but by short barks, varied mutterings, pursing of the lips, movements of the tail, and expressive play of the physiognomy. Every now and then a new comer seemed to bring news; and the council commented on it, and after a while dispersed. This went on during the first month or two of the siege, when bread was plentiful, the stock of beef was still considerable, and the dearness of forage rendered horse-meat abundant. The animals did not suffer then; but soon things began to change, and their rations diminished as those of men did. The poor creatures could not understand it, and gazed at their owners with wonderful eyes when their meagre pittance was placed before them. They seemed to ask what they had done to be so punished. Many masters abandoned their dogs, not having the courage to kill them; and these animals were to be seen at night wandering like shadows, near the walls, and trying to induce kind-looking persons to have pity on them. M. Gautier says he was continually followed by them, they uttering faint cries all the while, and sometimes venturing to put their noses to his hand. Soon they began to perceive that people looked at them in a strange manner, and, under pretense of caressing them, felt their flesh, as a butcher would, to ascertain if they were in good condition. The cats perceived this sooner than the dogs did, and became exceedingly cautious as to whom they allowed to touch them; on the least quick movement they fled to the roof or cellar; but at length the dogs "smelt a rat, "and ran away when any one called or whistled to them. The canine council, before mentioned, diminished daily, and there soon remained no one of its members but the dreaming terrier, who, however, was only dreaming in appearance; for in reality he was always on his guard, scenting danger afar off, and showing his heels at the approach of any one at all suspicious.

CASHMERE SHAWLS.

A large part of the wool for these exquisite fabrics, and we refer to the true Cashmere shawls, is supplied not only from the Cashmere Valley itself, but from Thibet and Tartary—the Cashmere goat being distributed over certain portions of Central Asia. The city of Cashmere itself contains a large population, the fertility of the valley, in addition to its chief manufacture, contributing to its prosperity. It is only the summer wool that is used, and this is bleached by a preparation of rice flour. On plain shawls, the weaving is effected by a long, heavy and narrow shuttle, but this is superseded by wooden needles when the more ordinary variegated shawls are to be made. For each colored thread a different needle is used. So slow is the process when the design is elaborate that the completion of a square inch will occupy three persons for a day, and a shawl of remarkable beauty would take this number a year for its execution; but a number are engaged on the same shawl, according to the speed required. Singularly enough, it is only the inner side of the shawl that is exposed to the view of the workman, he being guided by the design placed before him and the directions of a skilled supervisor of the work. The thread is previously spun and dyed by women. The shawl worked with the needle is, however, far inferior to that in which the pattern is woven in.

As soon as a shawl is made, notice is given to an official inspector. It is then stamped at the Custom House, when a price is put upon it, and upon this a demand of twenty-five per cent. is made. Sulphur fumes are employed to give the shawls the beautiful yellow color so much in request in the East. Over an aperture in the door of a room carefully closed from the external atmosphere, is placed a high, square case of poplar wood; over the aperture the shawls requiring to be tinted are suspended, and a charcoal fire being lighted beneath the floor, a small amount of powdered sulphur is sprinkled on it. The next day the shawls are washed and dried, and then laid one over the other and subjected to pressure. The dyes used are not simply those of India, Africa and Persia supplying not a few of the colors.

The production of Cashmere looms includes small shawls of a colored ground with an extremely fine border; also a light and beautiful fabric, much resembling Nankin gloves and sacks, are manufactured from shawl wool; also a red silk cloth for ladies. The value of the Cashmere shawls exported last year from Umritsur to Europe, amounted to $1,185,000.

THE NAPOLEONIC SARCOPHAGUS

The magnificent granite sarcophagus presented by Queen Victoria to the Empress Eugenie, as a receptacle for the remains of the late Emperor, has arrived at Chiselhurst from Aberdeen and been placed in the Mortuary chapel. It is similar in appearance to the mausoleum of the Duchess of Kent, and somewhat resembles that of the Prince consort at Frogmore. It is entirely of masonry—externally of Bath stone, lined with stone brought from France. The carving is very elaborate and handsome, especially the capitals of the pilliars, and the roof is grained and arched with much elegance, the design of the whole edifice being Gothic. The little chapel has a carved altar and canopy, and at the opposite end is a private doorway for the Empress. Above the door is a rose window, and there are three other lights on the south side. These are temporarily filled with plain glass, but the windows are all to be stained, and an artist, who has recently completed the windows of the Emperor's church at St. Cloud, has been to Chiselhurst with designs. The sarcophagus will stand on a tessellated pavement in the center of the new building, and will be approached from the interior of the church by two steps through a double bay, divided by columns of jasper. This approach being always open, the tomb will always remain in view of the congregation.

THERE IS NO DEATH.

There is no death. The stars go down,
To rise upon some fairer shore;
And bright in Heaven's jewelled crown
They shine forevermore.

There is no death. The dust we tread
Shall change beneath the summer showers
To golden grain or mellow fruit
Or rainbow-tinted flowers:

The granite rocks disorganize,
And feed the hungry moss they bear;
The forest leaves drink daily life
From out the viewless air.

There is no death. The leaves may fall,
And flowers may fade and pass away:
They only wait, through wintry hours,
The coming of May day

There is no death. An angel-form
Walks o'er the earth with silent tread,
And bears our best-loved things away;
And then we call them dead.

He leaves our hearts all desolate,
He plucks our sweetest, fairest flowers;
Transplanted into bliss, they now
Adorn immortal bowers.

The bird-like voice, whose joyous tones
Make glad these scenes of sin and strife,
Sing now an everlasting song
Around the tree of life.

Where'er he sees a smile too bright
Or heart too pure for taint and vice,
He bears it to that world of light
To dwell in Paradise.

Born unto that undying life,
They leave us but to come again:
With joy we welcome them again,
Except their sin and pain.

And ever near us, though unseen,
The dear immortal spirits; tread
For all this boundless universe
Is life—there is no death.

BISCHOFFSHEIM—ECCENTRICITIES OF THE GREAT PARIS BANKER.

The Paris correspondent of the New York Times reviews the career of the eminent banker, M. Bischoffsheim, whose death was recently announced by telegraph. He leaves a fortune which is estimated at between seventy and eighty millions of francs, and all made by himself. He not only deprived himself, but his family, of all but the bare necessities of life. It was only a few years ago that he could afford to have wine upon his table, and the ordinary delicacies of life were sternly forbidden. M. Bischoffsheim has two sons and one daughter, and the former are well known to every flaneur upon the boulevards. They are seen on every public occasion, but although living in the midst of wealth, they have lived in the midst of great privation. The two men were only too glad to flee from the paternal roof, but the income allowed them was insufficient. Naturally they were led into debt and folly. After one scene the father allowed the elder an apartment and a Victoria with one horse, but this concession was made by protocol, and a regular agreement was signed. This document enumerated what the young man of 30 odd must not do, and the moment a single stipulation was violated supplies were cut off immediately. In this way two young men, with good hearts and a fair amount of brains, have been rendered unfit for any public duties, and they will live out their days in the enjoyment of a wealth of which they were deprived in the days of youth. The Bischoffsheims are very much liked for their politeness and amiability, and everybody in Parisian society has sympathized most heartily in their deprivations. Neither are married, and they now have something like five and twenty millions each.

TOM BENTON'S FAMILY.

"Baron Boileau, who was sentenced to imprisonment by a French Court for his connection with the Memphis and El Paso Railroad affair, is confined in the Conciergerie. Mme. Boileau is at Boulogne. She and her six children live through the generosity of their friends." To many people of Missouri (says the St. Louis Dispatch) this brief paragraph will convey more than a passing interest. Nine or ten years ago Baron Boileau was the French Counsul at New York City, trusted and respected by the Government, and popular and accomplished in his intercourse with the people of America. He married, while Consul at New York, Susan, daughter of Colonel Thomas H. Benton. The marriage was a most happy one. Baron Boileau was afterward appointed Minister to Ecuador, and it was while perform ng the functions of his office in that locality that he was recalled and discharged by the French authorities. During his stay in New York he had become involved in railroad schemes, and had been induced in an evil hour to recommend in his capacity as an official agent of the Government, the negotiation of the Memphis and El Paso railroad bonds. In this he violated the plain law of his country. Rigid in all such matters, the French Government carried out the law to its utmost and imprisoned him. Fremont is a brother-in-law of the Baron, and the same Court which tried and found his connection guilty also sentenced the General to serve a term of years. He made good his escape from France, however, and in the absence of any thing like an extradition treaty will probably keep it good. There was once a period in the affairs of Missouri when Colonel Benton was its political autocrat. Troubles not a few have come to those whom he nurtured and loved. Mrs. Fremont is the wife of a man who has been declared a felon, because of a speculation which has ruined his brother-in-law, bankrupted his family, and consigned his wife and children to charity. Another daughter Mrs. Wm. Cady Jones now a widow, residing in San Francisco, California, has felt almost terribly the misfortune of life, and, though not enduring all the privations of extreme poverty, is supporting herself and children on the small wages paid to her as a teacher in the public schools.

A MODEST BENEDICT.

The St. Louis Journal is willing to father the following invention relating to a very bashful young man:

The unfortunate's friends knew that he wanted to be married; they knew that he deserved to be; but they were quite certain that he never would be, if he waited until he found courage to pop the question, so they took all the trouble off his hand, and by a series of rapid strategic moves had him "popped," accepted and wived before he could find a pretext for "wilting." So much accomplished, and the nuptial evening having passed off merrily, the young man's backboners withdrew at an early hour, feeling that they could spare themselves further efforts in their friend's behalf. About five minutes later, young Benedict, who had evidently been having a serious debate with himself, arose, took his hat, and with a nervous "good night" made his exit. He was not seen again by the bride or her family till the following evening, when he timidly knocked at the door, and was admitted.

No special comment being made upon his singular conduct, he passed an hour rather comfortably in the parlor, and everything seemed to promise favorably for a cure of the besetting weakness, when hearing the household monitor proclaim the hour of nine, he suddenly seemed to remember he had forgotten something, and started for his hat. This was the moment and the event which had been somewhat expectantly awaited with indignation most profound, but undercontrol, by the bride's mother. Planting herself resolutely in the doorway, the old lady demanded to know why and wherefore, what he proposed to do, and whether he was a man, or only a feeble imitation, etc; in short, why he did not remain with his wife, instead of slinking back to his old quarters? The bashful son-in-law stammered out, as the elderly female seized his hat and backed him into a chair again; "well, I should like to, but I thought maybe I'd better wait awhile for fear it might make talk among the neighbors!"

A HAPPY THOUGHT.

[N. Y. Sun.]

Two weeks ago last Thursday evening a child's birthday party was given by some little ones whose parents live in a fashionable house in West Fifty-fourth street. Numbers of invitations had been issued, and the "happy" children filled the spacious parlors, enjoying themselves as only children can. The coming holiday season was a leading topic, and the youngsters eagerly chattered about their hopes and desires, and wondered what new delights would be theirs on Christmas morning. In the course of the talk one spoke of the thousands of children whose Christmas gifts, even if they receive any at all, will be of the poorest kind. With the warm-hearted impulsiveness of childhood, every one was not only so sorry, but anxious to do something for the less fortunate children. But they had no money to buy presents with, and what to do was the question. Suddenly a happy thought struck one of the older ones, and it was submitted to the others:

"Why not gather up all our toys and playthings that we are tired of and send them to one place till there's a great big bunch of them, and then have somebody take them to the poor children?"

"Oh, that wouldn't be nice at all. You wouldn't want a broken old Dolly with a torn and soiled dress, nor a book with all the gold worn off, for your Christmas; and you'll think it real mean of Santa Claus if that's all he brings you," was the reply.

"But the Dollie's needn't have torn and soiled dresses, for we can put new, clean ones on them all our own selves; and as for books, even if the gold is worn off a little, the reading is just as good, 'cause you can't read all the story out of a book—it's just as good after a hundred times—and our Dollies and books and things would be all new to other children, anyway."

"Well, we might dress them up new, but we couldn't put new arms and legs on them—and one of my biggest wax Dollies has got no nose, only a great hole in her face where brother Dick burned it with a hot poker, trying to stick some long hair on her to make a bearded woman of her just like Barnum's. She wouldn't be very nice to give to anybody."

Some of the parents were consulted. They favored a collection of cast-off books and playthings for the benefit of those to whom they would be such a great and unexpected pleasure. Two or three ladies volunteered to see what would be the best way. The thoughtful committee of ladies arranged to have a room warmed and lighted, where the children could bring their treasures and have them rejuvenated, if possible, reclothed at any rate. It was an apartment connected with a church near by, and the little folks were told that they could come every day, morning and afternoon, and every evening as late as their parents would let them stay, and work at their new charity.

A kindly, pleasant-faced young Swiss, a toy maker by trade, was engaged from a large importing house, and he set up his little workshop among the children. The young folks were delighted with the arrangement, and began to turn their homes upside down for forgotten or disabled toys. The very first day there were brought in a hundred and thirty-eight dolls in various stages of dilapidation, and of all sorts and sizes—seventeen Noah's arks and five menageries—a score of automatic machine-working devices, such as walking dolls, tumbling trapeze performers, porters' wheelbarrows, fighting roosters, marching zouaves, and dancing darkies, sixty-four card games, books from the one syllable indestructible alphabet primers, printed on linen cloth, up to fine edijions of popular authors, including all the fairy tales ever written.

The receipts were much larger than had been imagined. On the second day, when the boys heard of it, and insisted on having a share of the fun, there was a scene. They tumbled in their contributions by the cart load. Steam engines, boxes of tools, legerdemain tricks, sleds, skates, velocipedes, fourteen Robinson Crusoes, twenty-one Arabian Nights, and scores of books of travel and adventure.

The work increased so that it was necessary to employ another man and a girl from the toy house to keep up with the repairs. The miracles performed by those workmen are astounding. They make nothing of taking a doll with but one leg, half an arm, and a smashed nose, and turning her out a perfect cure. Skates are sharpened, sleds repaired, steam engines put in thorough repair, machinery of all kinds overhauled, and hundreds of disabled toys leave their hands nearly as good as new. After the hammer, plane, and drawing knife, nails, tacks, brads, and glue have done their work, a few touches of paint finish the job. There was no play, from the "big girls" who stay until 10 o'clock down to the littlest "tots" who must be in bed at 7, all have something to do. The young men who unexpectedly drop in about the time the big girls are getting ready to go home, always bring their big pockets full of little odds and ends from "the store"—scraps of ribbon, tinsel, and brigit-colored fabrics of all sorts. And the poor battered dolls after having their arms and legs restored, or their wry necks set straight, or new and symmetrical noses put on by the wondrous surgery of the merry Swiss boy, are handed to the ladies, who by a few magic touches make the dolls miniature fine ladies.

This good work has gone on for a fortnight, and the number of toys and books collected and made available for re-presentation by this single happy thought is almost incredible. It is well worthy of imitation, and there is ample time before New Year's for others to try the experiment.

THE SHAH IN LONDON.

It cost the city of London $63,147 to make a fool of itself over the Shah of Persia, or about the same sum Boole compelled New York to pay for a certain notorious Japanese reception, which, by the way, was really the cradle of our ring troubles. Had the Persian humbug been in fact, as in name, the "King of Kings," it is doubtful if London would have been any more lavish of money in receiving him. It must be borne in mind that the figures we are about to give belong solely to a single entertainment, lasting only a few hours. The clerical work cost $1,500; $16,690 went to builders for temporary carpentery; gas fitters laid pipe to the value of $5,080; plumbers ditto, $250; pavers had a job costing $260; florists blossomed and bloomed to the extent of $2,000; decorators absorbed $5,324; $650 went for statuary; refreshments ate up $8,375; the wines cost $2,750, and soda water $283; china and glass cost $1,017; more than $1,100 went for music in two hours; priting and lithographing cost $2,694, the admission tickets alone costing $1,058. For awnings $4,302 were spent; for repairing cooking apparatus—(nothing said about digestive apparatus)—$642; gloves and scarfs for committee men, $292, (and this item brings to fond recollection those fearfully colored gloves Boole and his aldermen wore on the Japanese occasion;) a photographer who took a picture of the table, got $450, and about $4,000 more went for unmentionable incidentals.

It is worth recording in a separate paragraph that Alderman McGeorge, who seems to have been Chairman of the Committee who invested all this money in the Persian fraud, was rewarded for his report thereanent by a vote of thanks, and for engrossing which gratitude upon vellum an appropriation of $125 was duly made. Take it altogether, the affair was a piece of most excellent fooling.

FITS HARTRANFT AND MACKEY.

[From the Tribune.]

This is too unkind! Here is The Evening Post gravely and decorously observing that "it is well to keep in mind that Genet is to-day morally not different from what he was when elected. Probably he thought his election was a 'vindication.'"

PERHAPS.

Although I tread the burning sands,
Unshaded by a tree,
Perhaps the forest flowers bloom
Somewhere for me;
Yes, flowers beautifully fair,
Which cast their fragrance on the air.

Although I seek for drink, and find
A dusty river-bed,
I yet may quench my thirst beside
The fountain head,
Where sparkling waters laugh and play
With laughing sunbeams all the day.

Although upon the mid-day air
Discordant voices ring,
Perhaps my bird in some sweet glen
But waits to sing
A song of peace that yet will thrill,
A bosom now so coldly still.

Although I wander now alone
With none to love or cheer,
The ideal of my youthful dreams
Perhaps is near,
And yet will lead me o'er the sand
And sea into the promised land.

Perhaps, though lowly is my lot
And scarcely known my name,
A wreath is waiting me, far up
The hill of fame,
And yet will rest upon my brow
More lightly than the thorns do now.

But if I miss all these, perhaps
Beside the heavenly gate,
Some loving one when life is done
For me, will wait—
Yes, wait for me with loving kiss
A recompense for all I miss.

A PICTURE AND A PROPOSAL.

Captain C. A. Wilkinson, aide-de-camp to General O. O. Howard, is a Christian soldier and an ardent lover of the red man. He may be and probably is weak, but is not wicked, and the tears into which he burst at Chicago when recounting the outrage perpetrated upon Shacknasty Jim by a Kansas reporter, who kicked the lone exile of Klamath and then wrote him up as a frowsy vagabond, were undoubtedly genuine. But Captain Wilkinson's informal report on the treatment of the Indians, past, present, and projected, can hardly be sanctified from secular criticism even by the buckets of tears with which he bedewed the pulpit cushion at Chicago. We do not or a moment doubt that the Yuma chief, dirty and dignified, who complained that the agents were plundering him, was correct. It is not improbable that the Apaches ask for corn and receive a ration of gravel beyond even the digestion of a stolen army mule. It may be that when Apaches lay their grievances before agents the agents fill high the bowl with Samian arsenic and shoot the Indians who survive for remarking that the white man's whisky was bad medicine. To all of these propositions we assent, coming as they do from a gentleman doubly bound to speak the truth as a soldier and as a Christian. But the eye and the mind dwell with peculiar fondness upon one picture and one proposal contained in Captain Wilkinson's address.

First, the picture. When traveling through Arizona, General Howard always halted on the Sabbath day and sang grand old hymns, while the Indians gathered around with moistened eyes. One sachem folded Captain Wilkinson to his heart and said, "Good Apache," which convinced the Captain that he was a good enough Apache to be trusted even with his personal property of a capillary character. If there is anything in history, from the time of Pocahontas and Penn to the present day, more pathetic or picturesque, we are mistaken. A captain of infantry clasped to the bosom of an Apache chief in the extreme left. On the right a group of Indians who,

——sadly queer.
Affect the melting mood and drop the pitying tear.

Why heave their bosoms thus unwontedly? Why do rivers of waters furrow the alluvial deposit of their cheeks? Why, like the milkwhite steer along Clitumnus, grazes unappropriated the unwatched army mule? For answer see the central foreground, in which General O. O. Howard, late of the Freedman's Bureau, "lines" the grand old hymn,

I love to steal awhile away,

and harangues the settlers and sachems from the text of the penitent thief.

Second, the proposal. "If," says Captain Wilkinson, while the tears coursed down his innocent nose, "a sort of Freedman's Bureau could be established among the Indians, with such men as General Howard and myself, the whole Indian problem would be solved." We commend the suggestion to Secretary Delano and the Washington Ring, anxious for new appropriations to steal. In the three years which remain to them a very remunerative redmen's bureau might be organized, abused and whitewashed. Whether Captain Wilkinson is in earnest or not in desiring the appointment of General Howard is and must ever remain a secret of his own tearful bosom; but General Howard, if he received the appointment, could not do more wisely than demand none but Wilkinson, men of incorruptible inefficiency, as his assistants, men who would render robbery facile without stealing themselves. Placed in such hands the Indian problem would be settled by "hook," if not, as at present, by Crook.

FAMINE. — THE TERRIBLE PROSPECT IN BENGAL.

A correspondent of the London Times, writing from Calcutta in October, thus pictures a frightful prospect: I am afraid we are about to endure a famine in Bengal such as has never before been experienced in the history of our rule. The rains ceased prematurely in the middle of last month, just as they did in Orissa in 1865, while the previous fall had been unprecedentedly light. The result is that the great Amun rice crop, on which the people depend in the main, has failed almost all over Bengal, and nothing like an average eightanna crop will, I fear, be harvested. But this is not all. The drought has utterly prevented the sowing of the spring crop, and we have to face twelve months during which the people will have to be maintained out of the food reserves in the country plus this miserable failure of the Amun The drought was felt over a very small area of the country in 1865, while this year it has marked the whole country, from the Bay of Bengal right up to the borders of Oude. I believe I was the first to wake up to the real significance of the weather reports, but all are now equally alarmed. The worst tract in the country is the one that is most densely populated and the poorest of them all, Benar, with nearly 30,000,000 people to be fed. Owing to our miserable *laissez faire* notions in the past we have left the zemindar and the usurer to reduce this people to positive slavery. The zemindar and his *amlah* (underlings) take ten-sixteenths of the ryots' cross—imagine that!—and the usurer steps in and takes the other six-sixteenths, and the people live upon the advances of the latter from one year's end to the other. Growing the most magnificent harvests of wheat, rice, opium, indigo, they themselves starve on the coarsest millets, and are as poor and miserable as can be conceived. In these circumstances I have urged privately, but with all the force I could command, the only counsels that can save us from a very awful calamity, viz., the empowering the ryot to take the crops now in the field and the cold-weather crops suspending all claims upon him for rent, advances, revenue, &c., for twelve months. If the customary misappropriation of these crops between zemindar and usurer takes place this year, nothing will save the people, I am persuaded, from perishing by the millions. They have all been nursing the hope that rain might yet fall, but I have shown them meteorological returns of many years past that there is no reasonable hope of any, and the position at last begins to dawn upon them all. Campbell is at Patna, and the Viceroy is on his way down to Calcutta, and all that can be done no doubt will be.

VARIETIES.

SENATOR-ELECT BOOTH of California is a bachelor. His mother has presided at his gubernatorial receptions.

THE affidavit of a Chicago policeman states that "he called me an ass, a simpleton, and an idiot, all of which I declare to be true."

IT is said five hundred children in Havre become fatherless, and more than one hundred women were made widows, by the loss of the Ville du Havre.

A LADY at Appomatox, Va., recently gave a party, to which her son invited several of his school fellows. The lady is 100 years old, and her son 72.

A LADY in Canterbury, Conn., who was rendered speechless by a shock of lightning in July, 1862, recently had her speech restored on the birth of a child.

"HE was a good man," says an Iowa paper of a deceased citizen, "but then he sometimes bet on the wrong horse, the same as the rest of us."

A DISTINGUISHED tenor singer now in this country, is said to have a bowl of oatmeal gruel made for him every night before retiring, into which he squeezes a lemon, and then—washes his face with the mixture.

THE baneful habit of opium eating is increasing in this country. From three to five years of indulgence wrecks the finest constitution, the eyes are sunken, the frame is emaciated, and death ends the wasted life.

A SPRINGFIELD girl threatens to sue her father for breach of promise. She says the old gentleman first gave his consent, and now refused to, and that her beau having got tired of waiting has gone after another girl.

A VERY mean young man, in Covington, Va., recently agreed to commit suicide with his sweetheart, because her stern father would not let him marry her. The lady kept her part of the promise, but the young man ignominiously backed out.

THE Prince and Princess of Wales hav been visiting the Duke of Marlborough at Blenheim. They were received at the town of Woodstock, near Blenheim Palace, with triumphal arches, loyal addresses and crowds of enthusiastic admirers.

A PROUD mother in Washington, D. C., wrote to one of the papers in that city, stating that her son, who is a newsboy, has bought her a $65 sewing machine out of his savings, besides paying $3 a week for board.

A NEW ORLEANS justice has decided that where two families occupy a house, one family can't sing "Captain Jinks" over thirty times in succession without being liable to a fine for disturbing the peace.

CHARLESTON, South Carolina, claims to be "the healthiest city in the Union," because, last week, the mortality, as shown by the return of the City Registrar, was three whites and fifteen colored out of a total population of fifty thousand, nearly equally divided between the two races.

Two simple minded spinsters, of uncertain age, living in New Orleans, recently conceived the brilliant idea of improving their fortunes, by burning down the house in which they dwelt, and securing the insurance. Their knowledge of the ways of men was, however, too limited, and they were ignominiously found out and sent to prison.

IT isn't worth, while under all circumstances, to express your sentiments freely, unless you hanker after martyrdom. While Lydia Thompson was capering in a Memphis theatre the other night, a fellow in the audience shouted, "Bully for you, old tow top! Good Lordy, look at her kick!" and they put him

Weekly Post.

JAS. P. BARR, ... WM. SCHOYER,
JOS. S. LARE, ... E. A. MYERS.

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JAMES P. BARR & CO.,
PITTSBURGH, PA.

Pittsburgh, Saturday, Jan. 3, 1874.

THE New York doctors are now trying to determine who killed Fisk. They don't seem to be satisfied with the verdict of the jury in the Stokes case.

THE Democrats of Philadelphia are preparing for the municipal contest in February, and have fixed the third Monday in January for the holding of their primary elections.

THE heaviest loser in Ohio by the failure of Jay Cooke & Co. was Mr. Thomas Dardis, of Bellefontaine, who lost $38,806. The smallest was the Logan County Bank, which lost seventy-two cents.

RADICAL politics and financiering are beautifully illustrated in South Carolina. Last year there was the sum of $2,810,279 in taxes collected. Of this sum $1,000,551 was never turned over to the treasury, but pocketed by the officials.

IT is not refreshing to hear newspapers like the Commercial and Harrisburgh Telegraph in the tone of injured innocence talk about the tyranny of the majority that support the Constitution. It really sounds strange to hear the Ring "squeal."

THE Ohio Legislature will meet on next Monday, January 5th. On the second Tuesday following, January 13th, it will proceed to the election of a U. S. Senator. Of course Hon. A. G. Thurman will be re-elected, to the place he has so nobly filled during the past five years.

WHEN a man has cheek, there is nothing like having plenty of the article. Judge Durell, whose infamous conduct in New Orleans has scandalized the bench of the whole country, and steps for whose impeachment are now being taken, proposes to the President that he will resign the office if Grant will appoint him to a foreign mission. Durell is the most perfect type of the true blue Radical we have yet seen. Grant should have given him Sickles' old shoes.

THE President is still looking after and providing for the members of his own household. The latest instance comes in shape of an order assigning Lieut. Fred. Grant, of General Sheridan's staff, to duty in Washington, as mustering and disbursing officer, with the same rank and pay he has been receiving. The position is said to be a sinecure. Lieutenant Grant enjoying the rank and pay of Lieutenant-Colonel, while the subordinate does the work.

THE Virginius difficulty is settled after a fashion. The vessel lies sunk off Cape Fear, North Carolina, with a floating pork barrel as a monument. Attorney-General Williams may rest quiet now. His remarkable decision will not place the fillibuster craft in the hands of the Spanish authorities. A solemn mystery envelopes the Virginius, the officers of the Ossipee, refusing to tell anything about the causes that led to the sinking of the vessel, or even the date or place of the occurrence. Horse marine diplomacy.

CITY CHARTER.

The Dispatch recommends the Governor to immediately sign a charter, hurried through the City Councils a year ago and snaked through a Ring Legislature, which exceeds the new Constitution, in length, and nearly affects every citizen of our city, which has not been endorsed nor even read by the people whom it most concerns. If the Dispatch is anxious to have a charter cooked up in a corner by a Ring, which it is so eloquent in denouncing, why don't it publish it, and let the people see it and let the people have the same chance to express an opinion they had on the new Constitution? It may contain excellent provisions, but we think it was intended to absorb the property of the city in the hands of the Ring, and so written. It would place in the hands of five men the water works, all street paving, repairing and sewerage, to be selected by Councils, and which would be a fortune every year to favorite contractors and those who could manipulate the appointment. As we are on the way to reform, and as these very subjects are largely provided for by the new Constitution, which the people of the city almost unanimously approved, why should this charter be thrust into existence without giving the people a chance to see it? We make our appeal not to the Governor, but to the tax-payers of this city.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION—CLOSING SCENES.

The Convention, called in obedience to the mandate of the people sent forth at the annual election of 1871,—the members of which were chosen at the election of 1872,—met at Harrisburg, according to the arrangement of the Legislature, on the 12th day of November, 1872. It adjourned after selecting its committees, &c. and after a few weeks session, to meet in Philadelphia, early in January, 1873. On the 3d of November, 1873, it finished its labors, and directed that the Constitution which it had prepared, should be submitted as a whole to the people of the State on the 16th of December. It also resolved to re-assemble at Harrisburg on the 27th inst. to receive and count the returns, and to declare the result. And in accordance with this last order the Convention met at Harrisburg to close and complete its duties on Saturday, Dec. 27, 1873.

There can be no doubt that the conclusion of the Convention to postpone final adjournment until the people should pass upon the Constitution, contributed much to the fortunate and most righteous result of the canvass. The Convention were able, to a certain extent, to shield their work from the lawless hands of the Ring, and its hitherto victorious army of repeaters, ballot-box stuffers and personators,—assisted as these were found to be by the headstrong usurpers who do not adorn the highest judicial seats of our State. The fact that the Convention was not dead, but only slept for a season, had a depressing and restraining effect on the Ring, who felt that they were seriously hampered—that the world was not alone "for them to bustle in."

An informal meeting of the members of the Convention was suggested for 9 o'clock on Saturday. There was a prompt, spontaneous attendance of more than a quorum, who decided to consult upon the order of business, &c. (when the Convention should meet) with closed doors. There was, of course, much harmony and good feeling—many hearty congratulations upon the splendid result of the canvass. But the indignation felt against the astounding assumptions of the Supreme Court, was a feeling as universal, deep, and strong as ever stirred the hearts of any body of men.

But throughout its brief session the convention bore itself with becoming dignity, and in all their expressions, the members manifested a degree of temperance and forbearance which could be profitably imitated by the venerable supreme justices in the future—and especially did the convention rule its spirit in discussing the action of the Supreme Court.

A committee of thirteen was appointed by the informal meeting who were charged with "gathering up the fragments" of the business, as it were, and with indicating the course of the closing proceedings.

The Convention was formally called to order by President Walker at about 1 o'clock, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Curry. [More than one hundred members were present.] And this is perhaps the proper place to speak of the insolent and scandalous demeanor of the dependents of the Ring in and about the State Capitol. No preparation whatever, was made for the Convention by John A. Smull, the Resident Clerk of the Lower House at Harrisburg, who holds his office through the recess, and who has charge of the public buildings. There was little or no fire in the hall in the morning,—the desks and chairs seem to have been covered with the whole summer's dust, in which members could have legibly written their names, if they had had a fancy for such pastime. Each member might hunt up water, or writing materials, if he needed them, for himself! The lowest of the menial servants of this great State, who have seen her plundered both on a grand and a petty scale, and knew exactly how it was done and who did it, for these ten years, would not take the time and trouble to supply the convention with these little conveniences. But the rude behavior of the higher State dignitaries accounted for the dereliction of their inferiors. It was "like master like man."

Neither the State Executive, nor the Secretary of State nor any other of the Governor's coadjutors, showed himself in the hall! The best of it was the business was admirably done without them, and his Excellency *may* have thought, like Alphonso, King of Aragon, who "much ceremony boasted," that the convention should have called on *him*. But their time was really too limited, and probably their respect for the Governor was not equal to the onerous task.

So the members came and went about their duties and did not see his Excellency. He and his retainers certainly do not like the new Constitution—but still his conduct on this occasion was not becoming in the Governor of a Commonwealth like ours. It has fully confirmed the charge of his entire personal unfitness for the position he holds.

The business of the Convention—or what it chose to confine itself to—was discharged in a few hours. It protested in solemn, earnest and dignified resolutions against the extravagant but dangerous assumptions of the Supreme Court, and calmly asserted the inherent power of the people over their own political destinies, which were confided for the time to its Convention and to that alone. The sense of the Convention was declared to be that the Legislature which shall be elected in the fall of 1874, shall meet in January 1875, and shall then hold its first biennial session under the new Constitution.

The examination of the final accounts of the Convention was then gone through with, and several little jobs were "nipped in the bud," in a way most surprising to the people of Harrisburg no doubt—the customary resolutions of thanks and compliments were then disposed of.

Then the death of the Hon. David Craig, of Lawrence, being the fourth member who has died since the Convention first assembled, was announced. His friends performed their sorrowful duties most impressively, and this solemn incident tended greatly to mellow and sadden the closing scenes of a body upon whose official career the shadows of declining day was fast descending.

In response to an earnest vote of thanks, the venerable chairman, Hon. John H. Walker, made brief reply in language rarely heard, and with a degree of feeling rarely shown on similar occasions. He spoke with deep satisfaction of the entire absence of personal selfishness and partisan feeling in the deliberations of the Convention—and he modestly alluded to his own efforts in the performance of his arduous duties, expressing his gratitude for the kindness extended to him. During his brief and impressive remarks: there was no one present whose heart did not go forth to the honest, brave, kindly, and resolute old man whose life-long labors have been fitly crowned by his leading part in the great work of the Convention. His fine face beamed with brighter benevolence as he spoke these parting words, and his commanding form and befitting gestures, combined with all the surroundings of the place and the memories of the time, to produce an impression on the people present that will long remain.

No higher praise can be awarded to Mr. Walker than to say he was a competent and worthy successor to the exceptionally great and good and learned citizen who first filled the chair of the Convention—WM. M. MEREDITH.

We need not express our heartfelt approval of the Constitution so laboriously and honestly framed, and so gloriously endorsed. We only trust that the legislature, cheerfully responding to the popular mandate will go promptly and honestly to work to pass the proper laws so carry its provisions into effect, as they are enjoined to do. We hope that in this they will be seconded by all the various departments of the State Government. And we may add, but in no threatening spirit, that we do believe it will not be well with any political aspirant who dares interpose any obstacle to the perfect success of this constitution. We believe that woe to him will follow such contumacy.

FOR HONEST REPUBLICANS.

The reading public have not forgotten how, during the past few years, the organs of the ring have met the charges that outrageous frauds had been committed on the ballot in Philadelphia, were nothing but "a pack of Democratic lies" and by which for a time they succeeded in misleading a portion of the decent element of the Republican party into endorsing the villiany inaugurated by John Covode and the infamous gang with which he surrounded himself—the system which has deprived Pennsylvania of her lawfully elected Governors since 1860 and kept a corrupt set of scoundrels in power to plunder her people. These outrages, we are happy to say, have at last aroused those Republican papers which do not depend upon a ring for an existence and which are not afraid to speak: one of these, in fact one of the ablest and most influential of this class of journals, is the New York Evening Post, from which we take the article appended and commend to honest Republicans everywhere, who will look in vain for anything of the kind in the columns of the Commercial or Telegraph.

[From the N. Y. Evening Post.]

KICKING AGAINST THE PRICKS.

The political machinery of the controlling party in Pennsylvania, known as the Philadelphia and Harrisburg rings, were not disposed to die easily under the reforming influences of the new Constitution. Having the largest faith in their power to deceive the public and the efficiency of ballot-box stuffing and repeating, they could not understand how a constitution, which should deprive them of their peculiar privileges, could be adopted by the voters who had so long and faithfully recorded their will. So they conducted the election upon the usual system, hoping that the honest vote of the country might be overwhelmed by the fraudulent vote of the cities. How great must have been their disappointment to find not only that the overwhelming process was on the other side, but that even in their own strongholds, notwithstand their tricks, they had been defeated!

The election machinery in Philadelphia is entirely in the hands of these ring-leaders. They receive the ballots, count them, and make the returns without interference from anybody. It is nothing unusual for them to return majorities for themselves more than the total vote of the district. The repeating plan was tried at the constitutional election. Gangs of repeaters went from poll to poll, voting again and again with the most unblushing assurance. The police and the election officers knew it, but did not interfere. Some of them have since been arrested for aiding this abuse, and a dispatch says that under "the current of public opinion" the Mayor has suspended the officers pending the investigation.

At the same time these things occurred in Philadelphia, Harrisburg was not idle. Senator Cameron was actively fighting the new constitution, and he succeeded, it is said, by means of some informalities which were probably intended, in throwing out some majorities for the constitution. He seemed to be confident of success until the very last moment. But the "current of public opinion," represented by two hundred thousand majority, which was necessary to force even an investigation in Philadelphia, has probably by this time convinced Cameron's rings that their corrupt system has had its day, and that its authors must retire from public life with it.

THE POSTAL TELEGRAPH.

Mr. Wm. Orton, President of the Western Union Telegraph Company, is out in a lengthy article in reply to the recommendations of Postmaster General Cresswell, who favors the establishment of a Postal Telegraph, to be operated and controlled by the government. Mr. Orton gives not only a full history of the telegraph, but a history of the agitation concerning the establishment of a postal telegraph.

When Professor Morse first established the telegraph between Washington and Baltimore, $30,000 was voted by Congress toward the enterprise, after a great deal of reluctance, and in the pretty general belief that it would be money thrown away. Afterward Professor Morse offered to sell his patent to the United States for the sum of $100,000, but the offer was declined upon the recommendation of Hon. Cave Johnson, the then Postmaster General, who reported as follows:

That the operation of the telegraph between Washington and Baltimore had not satisfied him that under any rate of postage that could be adopted its revenues could be made equal to its expenditures.

In 1866, Postmaster General Dennison was requested to take into consideration and report upon the expediency of establishing a system of postal telegraphy. He concluded his report with the following significant paragraph:

As the result of that investigation under the resolution of the Senate, I am of the opinion that it will not be wise for the Government to inaugurate the proposed System of telegraph as a part of the postal service—not only because of its doubtful financial success, but also its questionable feasibility under our political system.

There was a great deal of discussion on the subject during the session of 1866-7, and the result of it all was, the passage of a general law which authorized telegraph companies, duly incorporated under the laws of the several States to construct and operate lines in all the States and Territories, upon any military or post roads, and to cross navigable waters. The right of telegraph companies to enjoy these privileges was conditioned upon their agreeing to the various provisions of the law, prominent among which were the following points:

1. That the Postmaster General should fix annually the rates of Government messages, which messages should have priority over all others.

2. That the United States, at any time after the expiration of five years from the passage of the act, might purchase all the telegraph lines, property, and effects of any or all of said companies at an appraised value, to be ascertained by five competent, disinterested persons—two to be selected by the Postmaster General, two by the companies interested, and one by the four so previously selected. All of the principal telegraph companies of the United States have filed their acceptance of the terms of this act, and are therefore entitled to enjoy its benefits.

Under this act, Mr. Orton holds that the faith of the country is pledged to a fixed policy on the part of Congress not to interfere with the private enterprise of the telegraph companies. Mr. Orton might have placed it on still higher and more general grounds, because a government like ours, has no right to interfere with any sort of private enterprise, the very theory of organization being a pledge against such interference. Mr. Orton makes one strong point when he shows that the great telegraph system, with its millions of capital is truly the growth of private enterprise, never having received but $30,000 as a subsidy from the government, while railroad corporations have received the enormous bonus of $65,000,000, and the grant of whole empires of the public domain.

By what theory of reasoning can the government claim any right to absorb and take possession of the telegraph system, to the success of which it has never contributed, to say nothing of the anti-Democratic tendency of such a policy? Mr. Cresswell puts the value of the telegraph system of the country at $11,000,000, while Mr. Orton places it at more than $20,000,000, and from the figures of Mr. Creswell's witness, who fixes the valuation given by the Post-Master General, shows that its construction would cost nearly $800,000,000, demonstrating very clearly that Mr. Creswell does not know what he is talking about. While there is no doubt that in many instances the charges for telegraph services are in excess of what they should be, there is every reason to believe that still greater evils would ensue should the telegraph system pass exclusively into the hands of the Government.

Besides centralizing power and creating a great swarm of Federal officials in addition to the 80,000 office holders that now afflict the people, it would give a political power and influence to the Administration party that would be fatal to the rights of the minority and public liberties.

To show the vast extent of the use to which the telegraph is put in this country, we append the following figures from Mr. Orton's paper:

The people of the United States use the telegraph as freely as those of other countries. They are now sending messages at the rate of more than 20,000,000 per annum, the Western Union Company alone having sent 1,500,000 in the month of September last, not including a press service greater in the aggregate than that performed in the same time of all the other telegraphs in the world. It appears by the tables appended to the report of the Postmaster-General that in 1872 Great Britain sent 16,500,000 messages; France in 1871, 5,200,000; Spain in 1872, 1,100,000; Belgium in 1873, 1,300,000; Austria in 1871, 3,900,000 Germany in 1872, 8,200,000; Italy in 1871, 2,000,000; Russia in 1872, 2,800,000; Switzerland in 1872, 1,750,000.

THE "Oldest Inhabitant Association" of Washington will "receive" at 12:45 to-morrow. "The Biggest Thief Association," headed by Gov. "Boss" Sheppard, will receive all the time. Grant's hand will not be reluctant, if any one should happen around any time during the year with a present.

THE ENGINEER'S STRIKE.

Although there are many indications of a "weakening" on the part of the striking engineers, the troubles and confusion and complications are by no means at an end. Rumors are still rife that the engineers on the Pennsylvania road will also go into the strike, and if this proves to be the case, a general paralysis of business will be the inevitable result.

The strike of the engineers, differs materially from any strike that we have had in the country, and if it should become general, as it threatens to, its effect upon the country can only be compared to the late financial crash. Strikes generally only have a local significance and affect only some local interest or interests, but this strike affects the whole public from the Atlantic seaboard to the Pacific.

Should it become general and continue, say for the period of two weeks, hundreds of millions of dollars would not compensate for the losses sustained by the commercial community. Fortunes would be swept out of existence, and thousands of people will be brought to the brink of beggary. It is not a few hundred engineers that are interested in this matter. There are millions—the day laborer and the merchant prince alike that have an interest in it.

We shall not undertake to discuss the relative merits of the two sides of this question. We have never heard that the engineers have been overpaid, and the ten per cent reduction of which they complain, applies to every employee of the road from the President down to the humblest switchman or messenger. The engineers perhaps have been able to lay by a little money, and with half a million in the treasury of the Brotherhood to be expended in their own behalf in an exigency like this, will no doubt enable them to live for a time in comparative comfort, but what of the thousand other employees who working for much smaller wages are unable to lay by anything for a rainy day? They too are thrown out of employment in great numbers, while thousands of other laboring men, whose employment depends upon the regular receipt and transmission of freights and merchandize, are also deprived of an opportunity to earn their bread. The marked decrease of drayage upon our streets for the last two days, speaks in unmistakable words of the suffering that is being carried to hundreds of working men's homes in this city.

The miles of freight standing on the sidings will cause an interruption in business that will be seriously felt for months to come. In Pittsburgh this interruption of trade and traffic is a matter of millions to our merchants and manufacturers. Orders for goods and manufactures cannot be filled, and our regular customers are being driven elsewhere to make their purchases. Each order sent elsewhere assists to still more depress our crippled manufacture and trade just emerging from the great volcano of the financial panic, and thus another class of laborers are deprived of the means of gaining a subsistence to a greater or less extent.

But we need not follow this line of reasoning further. It can all be summed up by saying that there is not any class of the community but suffers from the stagnation produced by the strike of a very few men—more especially does this apply to the laboring classes. Whether the engineers are underpaid or not, we do not propose to discuss in this article, but it strikes us that there is some better way to adjust the matter than by utterly prostrating the business of a large portion of the country. We do not believe that there is a sufficient excuse to deprive a million men of the comforts of life and the means of gaining the same, because it is proposed to reduce the wages of less than two thousand men ten per cent. The striking engineers might find in this ample food for reflection.

Combinations only create antagonistic combinations, and we notice that in Europe, combinations of capital are being organized to resist combinations of labor. Such things only widen the gulf of misunderstanding between the two. Both have their rights, and we cling to the opinion that both can best maintain them by following the principles and dictates of reason more successfully than by a resort to the principles of communism.

THE means by which Senator Patterson of South Carolina obtained his last "vindication" are explained by the Charleston News and Courier: "In the first place, the members of the Legislature whose votes Patterson bought are the worst and least trustworthy men in that very untrustworthy body. They were ready and willing to sell their votes, and a spice of perjury has no terrors for them. The Trial Justices, before whom the preliminary hearings are had, are subject to removal by the Governor at any moment. The Governor owes much to Senator Patterson. Any Trial Justice who commits Patterson for trial, knows that he does so at the risk of losing his office. The two circumstances we have mentioned; the number and character of the persons who were bribed, and the dependent position of the Trial Justices before whom the charges are heard, make it almost impossible to bring Patterson to account in Columbia. The one reliance of the people must be on the Senate of the United States."

THE defalcation and exposure of City Treasurer Gage in Chicago has led many business men in that city to look after the accounts of their cashiers and book-keepers. Mr. C. P. Leland, the auditor of the Michigan Southern Railway Company, recently made an unexpected examination of the accounts of Mr. J. J. C. Gillespie, the cashier of the freight department of the road, and discovered a deficit of $70,000. Upon his exposure Mr. Gillespie is said to have first fainted away, then to have thought better of it, and to have done everything in his power to explain matters. He said he had invested the money in a patent flouring mill that would not repay it on call.

THE recent State Convention of the Farmer's Association of Illinois adopted the following preamble and resolution:

"*Whereas*, President Grant was guilty of using his official position to secure the passage of the infamous salary-grab law, and did, at the close of his first term, affix his signature to the same, thereby making it the law of the land; therefore,

"*Resolved*, That this convention of the farmers of Illinois, with sorrow, but in all candor, as in duty bound, do deprecate such degradation of the exalted position of President of these United States."

This is to the point, and every honest American will blush when he is compelled to admit that it states the exact truth.

A SINGLE Texas immigration agent says a Galveston paper, "has heretofore brought between three and four thousand from Alabama and Georgia, all practical farmers, and all in full sympathy with our people, politically and socially. They are among our best citizens. The short crops in the above States, and the scarcity of money, will, perhaps, prevent as many from leaving as we might otherwise expect; but the agent hopes to bring over three or four thousand more this year, as the desire to come to Texas is almost universal."

UNDER the heading of "Christian Statesmen," the World deals very plainly and bluntly with that great hypocrite of the age, Gen. O. O. Howard, who in the name of the Chistian religion has been carrying on a system of robbery upon the government and the ignorant negroes of the South. The World thus deals with the model "Christian Statesmen" of the times:

The Freedmen's Bureau, of which Howard was put at the head, was the greatest fraud of our times; it was the prolific mother of corruption that spawned an evil progeny. When Howard had so far yielded his virtue as to consent to conduct that organized fraud in the spirit in which it was conceived, he entered the downhill road, and nobody should be surprised at the depth of his descent.

The pretext for organizing the Freedmen's Bureau was the welfare of the Southern negroes; but the real motive was to organize them as the Southern wing of the Republican party and consolidate the negro vote. It was perfectly successful in this enterprise so long as the Bureau was maintained. . . . The Christian saintliness which he affected was useful to his employers as a screen to their real design, and he counted on their interest in keeping up the imposture to protect him against inquiry and to whitewash him if he should be accused. How well founded were his expectations on this point is proved by the persistence with which he has been shielded against all former arraignments, and by the hopes of escape which he still cherishes.

Learning, as he early learnt, that his cloak of piety was wanted by his employers to conceal their unscrupulous designs, he was not slow to perceive that it might be of equal utility to himself. The more efficient he was in promoting their objects, the more safely he could pursue his own. He knew that his employers could not afford to have the Freedmen's Bureau explode by unmasking the useful hypocrite they had placed at its head; and, naturally enough, he was not inclined to serve Satan and let others have all the wages. . . . We have no idea that the two or three hundred thousand dollars which this bright consummate flower of Christian piety is accused of embezzling from the poor negroes is anything like the real sum of his peculations. He pretended that the greater part of the money he handled was expended in rations for starving black sufferers. . . . We trust that those choice jewels and bright ornaments of the Republican party, its "Christian Statesmen," may all at last get their deserts. Colfax has "gone to his own place"; Howard is likely to follow him; but they by no means exhaust the list of these unctuous sons of grace who addressed Sabbath-schools on Sunday that they might steal with less suspicion on the other days of the week.

The Republican party introduced a new standard of morals; a standard which made party zeal the highest virtue and a substitute for all others; and this dangerous teaching is bearing its necessary fruit in the wide-spread and deplorable corruption which is the common topic of the time. The party "of great moral ideas," and its later blossoms of "Christain statesmanship" have brought the country to the moral condition in which we now find it.

LIFTING HIS HAIR.

WHAT HON. CALEB CUSHING THINKS OF ATTORNEY-GENERAL WILLIAMS—AN IDIOTIC DECISION REVIEWED.

[Washington Special to the World]

WASHINGTON, December 28.—A sharp article in the Capital of to-day on the opinion of the Attorney-General in the Virginius case, written by Caleb Cushing, although not bearing his signature, arraigns Mr. Williams for what it sarcastically terms his judicial interpretation of the law. It seems that Mr. Cushing, who has usually been employed by the State Department as its law adviser, strongly opposed the policy of the Government toward Spain when he was consulted at the outset of the negotiations, and consequently he was dropped and has not been consulted in the matter since. He told the Secretary of State at the start that the Virginius was a filibuster, and that we could not demand reparation of Spain for her capture. Mr. Cushing speaks of the Attorney-General's opinion as follows:

The decision of the Attorney-General embraces two points; First, that the register of the Virginius being a fraud upon the navigation laws of the United States she had no right to carry the American flag; second, that by carrying the American flag which she had no right to carry, she was as much exempt from interference on the high seas by the ships of other naval powers as if she had been a regular merchant vessel prosecuting a legitimate trade and lawfully registered. In other words, upon the highway of nations, whatever pirate or outlaw prefers to disguise itself in American colors obtains thereby the right of American protection as against those who may be aggrieved by its depredations. While the Virginius was committing a crime against the United States, which rendered her an outlaw, liable to seizure and confiscation, and her crew to punishment, so potent is the American flag which she wrongfully carries, that any interference with her operation is an insult to the honor of the United States, for which we are in duty bound to make war the alternative of atonement. This is simply the doctrine that a robber going to work in the stolen clothes of a respectable man is not only entitled to the respect of the person he intends to injure as if he were the owner of the garments he has assumed, but to the protection of the owner himself as against his intended victim. This is not the doctrine that the flag protects the ship, but the doctrine that the mask protects the malefactor. It is the offering of a premium on disguise. It is like saying to a highway robber: "Rob with your face exposed and you shall be punished, but put on a mask and you shall not be molested." The decision of the Attorney-General is virtually taking the law of the case from the filibuster. It is precisely the rule which he would like to have adopted. One item in the outfit of such craft as the Virginius is a full assortment of flags. It is no compliment to the United States that the stars and stripes are the emblems chosen by the Cuban bucaneers as a means of evading pursuit and capture by the power against which they were carrying on their operations. The flag of no other Christian country would have answered their purpose. No other power would have interfered as we have done. No other Attorney General would have laid down the doctrine that the pirate is protected by his disguise, as it has been laid down by the Attorney General of the United States. And no Attorney General of the United States would have done it except in the case of a nation supposed to be too weak to be able to retaliate.

THE RING AND THE RECENT ELECTION—PICTURES OF KING GAMBRINUS AND A POLL PARROT AS VOTERS.

A Philadelphia correspondent in a letter to the World says:

The canvassers list was redoctored, and hundreds of new names added in every ward. The canvassers were appointed by the Republican Board of Aldermen, this political organization having the selection of two men to the Democrats one. In several of the wards the celebrated Alderman McMullen, who was playing into the hands of the ring, succeeded by the aid of the Republican members of the Board in obtaining the appointment of his own henchmen and this too, in the face of the protest of the Democratic party. The canvassers consisted of Custom-house and Postoffice employees, policemen, hangers-on of the ring officers, and clerks in the various city departments. Dead men's names were freely used, the lists in the offices of the Department of the Registration of Marriages and Deaths furnishing all that was necessary. To the writer's own knowledge, in the Fifth precinct of the Tenth ward and in other divisions of the same, every picture of King Gambrinus, such as always hang in lager-beer saloons, was registered upon the lists under the name of Charles, or John, or Henry Gambrinus, and actually voted on by repeaters. In one saloon in the Tenth ward the proprietor had a pet poll parrot, and this saucy bird was placed upon the registering list as George Polly, and the name was voted upon.

FRED GRANT'S NEW ASSIGNMENT.

[Washington Cor. Chicago Tribune.]

Last winter, when Fred Grant was sent out to Chicago to displace the gallant Gen. Forsythe on Sheridan's Staff, the Lieutenant-General felt constrained to explain, in a general order, that young Grant's title of Lieutenant-Colonel was only a local rank, to be dropped whenever he retired from the staff. Gen. Sheridan, at the time he issued the order containing the above information, probably believed what he wrote, and expected that the promise would be fulfilled, but a recent event goes to show that, while he may propose, the President disposes. This is not an unusual way for the Chief Magistrate to treat his subordinates in matters concerning the welfare of a member of his own family. In the face of Sheridan's order, he has ordered Fred to Washington, and appointed him mustering and disbursing officer with the rank and pay he enjoyed while a member of the Lieutenant-General's military family. The only duty expected of the young man is to draw his salary, the details of the office being performed by a competent officer holding a lower rank and drawing small pay. This action of the President is of a piece with the withholding of Gen. Porter's resignation. Not satisfied with having his own salary doubled, he has taken advantage of his great office to jump his son from Brevet Second-Lieutenant to Lieutenant-Colonel, with corresponding increase of pay.

MORE OFFICIAL EXTRAVAGANCE.

HORSE AND CARRIAGE ACCOUNTS OF THE STATE AND TREASURY DEPARTMENTS COMPARED—THE STREET CAR TICKET BUSINESS.

[By Telegraph to the Tribune]

WASHINGTON, December 26.—Treasury Department officials have less to say about increased taxation since members of Congress and newspaper men have been looking into the expenditures for contingencies, but the examination has gone too far to stop now. As soon as Congress meets again the overhauling of estimates will go on with renewed vigor, and each department will have to show the necessity of each appropriation before it is voted. The simple fact that an equal appropriation was made last year will not be a sufficient reason for voting it this year. One of the first accounts that members of Congress will wish to examine will be that in which the expenses of horses and carriages are entered. No simple report of the amount under each head will suffice. The original vouchers will have to be produced. As an example of the difference between a moderate and an extravagant expenditure of a contingent fund the horse and carriage account of the State Department may be compared with the similar account of the Treasury Department. The former foots up for the year 1872, $1,543 06, while the latter for the same year was $7,563. In the State Department harnesses and the repairs of the same cost $250 25; in the Treasury Department, $1,130. In the State Department the shoeing of horses cost $1,100 51; in the Treasury Department $331. In the State Department feed, hay, straw, &c. cost $524 12; in the Treasury Department, $3,327. In the State Department, there was paid for carriages and repairs, $398 20; in the Treasury Department, $3,876. In the State Department, there was paid for horses $600; in the Treasury Department, $250.

But of all the recent exposures of the way in which the Treasury Department Contingent Fund is spent that in regard to the 43,000 street-car tickets used in a single year has caused the greatest stir, and the heads of other departments are looking over their accounts to see how many street-car tickets their subordinates are using in a year. In the State Department during the same year that the Treasury people were using 43,000 only 3,808 were charged for. The State Department is situated almost in the suburbs of the city, and would naturally have to use many tickets. The different Bureaus of the Treasury Department are also looking over their accounts to find what proportion of the 43,000 tickets each used, and it has been found that they were not by any means evenly distributed. In one Bureau at least there has been a reform within the last year, though it is believed that others have been sufficiently extravagant to keep the number up to its old standard. In the Bureau referred to the number of street-car tickets used in 13 months—and there was no stint—was about 200. In the same Bureau, in a single month of the previous year 250 were used. A Congressman remarked to-day that if the thing went on, some Government officials were likely to become as notorious as the Albany postage-stamp thief.

MILWAUKEE.

STATISTICAL REPORT.

MILWAUKEE, December 29.—The annual statistics of the city of Milwaukee show considerable increase in her population, which is estimated at one hundred and four thousand. The improvements in the way of building, foot up three and a half million, and articles of manufacture twenty-seven million dollars. The losses by fire were three hundred thousand dollars. The number of deaths were two thousand. Arrests, 18,000.

THE ENGINEERS' STRIKE.

THE SITUATION LITTLE IMPROVED.

WAGES REDUCED ON THE PENNSYLVANIA CENTRAL.

CHICAGO, December 29.—The members of the Brotherhood of Engineers in this city have passed a resolution that they are not disposed to submit to any reduction of the rate of wages they were receiving prior to December first, as that rate was low enough, although it gave general satisfaction; also tendering their sympathy and promising their support to all engineers now opposing, or who may hereafter oppose any reduction of their wages. These resolutions are published, signed by committees from the Illinois Central, Chicago and Alton, Rock Island, Chicago Burlington & Quincy, Milwaukee & St. Paul and Michigan Central railroads.

NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS.

CINCINNATI, December 29.—There are no new developments in the railroad strike to-day. All passenger trains on the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis road went out to-day, except an accommodation, and the New York night express to-night. All officers capable of running locomotives are doing so. It is hoped trains will run more regularly to morrow. Hotels and other business feel the effect of the interruption of railroad communication.

THE SITUATION.

INDIANAPOLIS, December 29.—There is but little change in railroad matters to-day. On the Columbus division of the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad one train each way passed over the road. The J. M. and I. road sent out one freight train of twenty-four cars and one passenger train each. The Indianapolis and Vincennes road has been more fortunate than either of the other. Nearly all of their day trains are running regularly. The night trains on all the striking roads have been temporarily abandoned.

At the request of Gen. Macauly, in command of the militia at Logansport, twenty policemen were sent there by the Governor to-night. The current rumor this morning of a general strike on all the roads is not believed in railroad circles. The President arrived here to-night from Cleveland. It is supposed his visit is connected with the engineers' strike.

The engineers' strike continues without much change. Rumors are current of a general strike on all the roads, but cannot be traced to any reliable authority.

Last night a party of men entered the Jeffersonville, Madison and Indianapolis railroad round-house, and after threatening the watchman broke the gauges of all engines in the house and then left. Two of the engines were repaired and ready for service this morning. A large crowd gathered in the Pan Handle yards to-day, but the shops were closed and a guard armed with Spencer rifles placed in the yard. Bush, who shot Engineer Vance night before last, waived an examination this morning and was committed to jail in default of $3,000 bail.

ARRIVAL OF THE MILITIA FROM STEUBENVILLE.

COLUMBUS, December 29.—Governor Noyes received to-day a telegram from Adjutant General Knapp, who went to Dennison to investigate the necessity for the interference of the State authorities to keep the peace among the striking engineers and firemen. He reports that on the arrival of a militia company from Steubenville order was easily restored, and has been since maintained without difficulty. He anticipates no further trouble. Three trains have arrived to-day in charge of master mechanics and assistants, from Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and Indianapolis.

THE STRIKERS STILL DETERMINED TO HOLD OUT.

The railroad authorities here say the strike must break up before many days, and on the other hand a visit to-night to the rooms of the Brotherhood of Engineers shows them to be as determined as they were last week. They say Chief Engineer Wilson's order has no effect on them.

The worst feature of the trouble here was the discovery of obstructions on the track of the Little Miami road in three places within the city limits. An engine about to leave with a train this evening was found to be soaped. The railroad authorities are attempting to run all their day trains, and get more away to-day than any day since the strike commenced.

NEW YORK, December 30.—An order has been issued for the reduction of the wages of engineers and others employed in the running of trains on the Pennsylvania Railroad, the reduction to take effect on Thursday. It is reported that the men will strike.

NO MATERIAL CHANGE IN THE STRIKE.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., December 30.—The engineers strike still continues without material change. One passenger train went out this forenoon on the Pan Handle road and one on the Jeffersonville road, and trains have arrived on both. The Vincennes road is running its passenger trains regularly. Rumors are still current of a general strike on all roads, but seem to be without foundation. From present appearances, the strike is nearly at an end.

ALL QUIET.

CLEVELAND, December 30.—Railroad matters are quiet here. There are rumors that the engineers on the Lake Shore line will strike on Monday or Tuesday next, but no definite information can be obtained. Those who have the best means of information say no strike is contemplated.

STRIKERS SHOW NO DISPOSITION TO YIELD.

COLUMBUS, December 30.—The striking engineers here exhibit no disposition to go to work at the company's terms. Nevertheless, Superintendent Caldwell reports the acquisition of quite a number of engineers, and trains will move regularly to-morrow. A considerable quantity of delayed freight was moved out to-night. The general impression here is that the strike will break within the week.

NEARLY ALL VACANCIES FILLED.

CINCINNATI, December 30.—Superintendent Ellison, of the Cincinnati division of the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railway, has secured the services of nine engineers for passenger trains, and needs four more. He has had hundreds of applications since the strike. All the passenger trains, except one accommodation, left on time to day. All will leave to-morrow, and way freight trains will commence moving. One engineer, supposed to be a striker, took a locomotive out and suffered it to burn, and was discharged. He has intelligence by telegraph from Pittsburgh that strikers in that city have come to the terms of the company. The striking engineers here refuse to compromise in the great majority of cases, and say they have means to hold out six months, and the Brotherhood of Engineers will aid them.

ALL TRAINS TO RUN ON TIME TO-NIGHT.

At the round-house of the railways in this city affected by the strike, the locomotive tenders and boilers are always examined before going out. The windows of the house are all nailed down and the doors, all but one are locked. Yet engines have been found in the tenders of which soap and concentrated lye have been placed. Superintendent Ellison to-night says the backbone of the strike has been broken. The road is carefully patroled from here to Columbus. He says all trains, freight and passenger will run on time to-morrow night.

THE VIRGINIUS.

THE VESSEL SUNK OFF CAPE FEAR.

WASHINGTON, December 30.—The Secretary of the Navy this afternoon received a dispatch from the commander of the Ossipee announcing that the Virginius was sunk on the night of the 26th off Wilmington.

VOTE OF THANKS.

NEW YORK, December 30.—The released Virginius prisoners passed a vote of thanks to Commander Braine and other officers of the Juniata.

THE ORIGINAL SENTENCE.

Engineer Knight, of the Virginius, said the original sentence at Santiago was that the entire crew should be hung at the yard-arm, but the captain of the Isabella Catolica did not wish such a spectacle made of his vessel, and obtained a change of sentence to death by shooting, and commutation of seventeen of the crew to the chain-gang. Mr. Knight, two of the quarter-masters, and one of the oilers were accordingly sentenced to the chain-gang for life, and the other thirteen, most of whom were boys, to eight and four years hard labor on the gang. A life sentence of this kind was regarded as worse than death.

FULL PARTICULARS OF THE SINKING OF THE VESSEL.

Lieutenant David C. Woodrow, who was in command of the Virginius at the time of her sinking, says, in his official report, that when he took command on the 17th at Dry Tortugas the vessel had water in all her compartments. Stores were received on board and the working party from the Ossipee coaled the ship all right. Next morning they stopped coaling and put all hands at work pumping and bailing, the water having gained two feet during the night. At 8 a. m. the water was up to the grate bars in both the fire rooms. The forward compartment had a depth of four feet, and after the compartment two feet six inches water at 4 p. m. The water was so much reduced that the fires were started in the boilers.

Capt. Whiting expressed himself satisfied that the Virginius was in a fit condition to start north, and about two o'clock she went to sea in tow of the Ossipee. As long as the sea was smooth everything progressed favorably, but a storm arising the vessel leaked so badly that we had to plug up the timber holds in the forward bulkheads to keep the fire rooms clear. On the 22d we threw overboard the port lower anchor and all heavy weights in the hold and shifted coal to lighten her forward. On the afternoon of the 23rd, there was from eight to ten feet of water in the forward compartments. Men were worn out, bunks drenched and no place to sleep. Under these circumstances Woodrow advised the commander of the Ossipee not to go further north, but to take the Virginius into Charleston where there was a dock. On the 24th the boilers were in such a wretched condition, it was impossible to carry more than five pounds of steam. At 5 A. M. on the 26th, the water gained so fast as to put out the fires, and Woodrow signalled the Ossipee to take the crew off the Virginius immediately. At this time the forward compartment was full of water up to within a foot and a half of the spar deck, five feet of water in the hold, the water over the grate bars in fire rooms and the after compartment dry.

The sea was very rough, and it was blowing a gale. When the boat from the Ossippee came under the Virginius' bow, landsmen were put on first. It took five trips to take all the officers and men off the sinking vessel. At 4:17 p. m. Virginius sank. The bows first in eight fathoms of water. The cross trees above the water. For four days the men in the fire room worked in water up to their knees, and at the time they left the ship were nearly exhausted.

STATEMENT OF COMMANDER HASWELL.

NEW YORK, December 30.—Lieutenant Commander Haswell, of the Ossippee, made the following statement to-day concerning the loss of the Virginius: The Ossippee left the Tortugas with the Virginius in tow, on the morning of the 19th inst. They had fair weather until the afternoon of Saturday. The following day, when a gale sprung up, they continued to have bad weather, and when the Virginius was signaled she was leaking badly. Captain Walters, therefore, determined to shape his course for Charleston, South Carolina, but as they got into smooth water the Virginins behaved better, and the water was kept out of her fire room. On the morning of Christmas day, however, the severe weather having continued the Virginius was again leaking as badly as ever.

The vessels put into the Frying Pan shoals, about ten miles south of Cape Fear light, where smoother water could be obtained. Here the vessels came to anchor, Capt. Waters hoping the Virginius would ride out the gale. Before daylight, the next morning, (Friday,) Commander Woodaw signaled with lights that the Virginius was leaking rapidly, with fires out and pumps stopped, and the crew wished to be taken off. Boats were lowered from the Ossipee at daylight, and by 7 A. M. all on board the Virginius were transferred to the former vessel. As a heavy sea was running the work of removing the crew was one of much danger and difficulty, and therefore no lives were risked in endeavoring to save the personal effects, or any other property of the Virginius. The hawser of the Virginius was cut and the buoy attached, to mark her position, in case she sank out of sight. The Ossipee remained at anchor during the day, and at a quarter past four o'clock, P. M. the Virginius, which had been gradually settling, went to the bottom. She sank in eight fathoms of water, and her top masts remained above the surface. The Ossipee then resumed her voyage to this port.

The naval officers were very reticent to-day, and the above statement was not obtained until the United States District Attorney was communicated with and removed the seal of secrecy. The released captives of the Virginius remain at a Cuban restaurant on Pine street, and the scene there this morning was one of great enthusiasm.

Resolutions were adopted giving thanks to Captain Braine, of the Juniata, for his kindness, and expressing sympathy with him in the loss of his son. The ex-captives also resolved to attend the funeral of his child.

ARRIVAL OF THE PRISONERS.

After the landing at the yard last evening of the surviving members of the passengers and crew of the steamer Virginius, they marched in an irregular line to the Fulton Ferry, taking the boat there to New York, and thence proceeding to the Cuban restaurant in Pine street, where they were hospitably entertained. They were clad in the navy uniform of the United States, and marched briskly through the streets showing no signs of recent suffering. When transferred to the tug-boat from the steamer Juniata, which carried them to this port from Santiago, they gave rousing cheers for their several benefactors leading off with three cheers for the Commander of the British steamer Niobe to whom they feel indebted for the preservation of their lives.

When the United States steamer Ossipee was boarded soon after her arrival here, in the absence of the steamer Virginius, which vessel the former was commissioned to bring into port, was explained, and the startling intelligence communicated that the Virginins, which, being all along in a leaking condition, had, when off Cape Fear, and in sight of land, in spite of all efforts of the crew aboard her, settled and gone to the bottom great excitement prevailed. The Times further adds that the officer of the deck on the Ossipee, said he had strict orders not to communicate with anybody in relation to the circumstances attending the foundering of the Virginius. He would not even give the date of the occurrence or place where it happened. He, however, made no attempt to deny the accuracy of the report as to the foundering of the ship. The captain of the revenue cutter Grant, who boarded the Ossipee, is reported as speaking to the captain of the latter vessel, who informed him that the Virginius had been lost off Cape Fear.

PROPOSED ACTION IN THE VIRGINIUS CASE.

WASHINGTON, December 29.—It has been ascertained from official sources that on the arrival of the Virginius at New York she will be seized by the collector of the port and libelled by the District Attorney, in accordance with instructions. If, on investigation, it be shown that the vessel had her register obtained by fraud, she will be sold and the proceeds of the sale paid to the United States. Spain can make claim to the vessel, but if she should it is positively certain our government would not entertain such claims. The report that the Spanish government requires of the United States the restoration of the Virginius and the payment of the indemnity, is not believed in official quarters, no authentic information having been received here to that effect, and besides, such requisition would be contrary to the terms of the protocol between the two nations. The reference of Spanish affidavits and other papers by the President to the Attorney General was known only to those present and to Secretary Fish, the matter having been kept perfectly secret until the opinion of the Attorney General was delivered to the last named gentleman on the day of its date, namely, the 17th inst., the first intimation. Such opinion was furnished the press four days later, and a full text obtained the next day from the Department of Justice.

THE COOLIE TRADE PROHIBITED.

The Department of State has received a telegram from the Consul at Hong Kong, announcing that the King of Portugal had, by proclamation, prohibited the Coolie trade at Macao and closed the barracoons.

LETTER FROM THE OWNER OF THE VESSEL.

NEW YORK, December 29.—John F. Patterson, of this city, has sent a letter to Secretary Fish dated the 26th of December, declaring that he is the registered owner of the steamer Virginius. He protests against the opinion of the Attorney General, by which he and the vessel were condemned on ex-parte testimony furnished by Spain. He states that the Solicitor of the Treasury gave him a bill of sale of the steamer. Thereupon, he, Patterson, truly swore that he was the owner and the government gave her an American register, which has ever since protected her. Any testimony charging perjury on his part, is false. He has hitherto kept silence by advice of his counsel, and because he has not been notified or called upon by the Government to testify or defend himself in relation to the matter, he requests that a copy of the evidence upon which the Virginius and he were condemned by the Attorney-General, be sent him, and that he be notified of the time and place for the examination of any other witnesses. A copy of the letter has also been sent the Attorney-General.

WASHINGTON.

THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. CUSHING—SPECULATION RELATIVE TO WHAT INSTRUCTIONS HE WILL RECEIVE.

WASHINGTON, December 30.—The appointment of Hon. Caleb Cushing to be the successor of General Sickles, as minister to Spain, continues to excite comment concerning the character of the instructions he will receive from the Department of State, after the confirmation of the nomination by the Senate. Although the usage is opposed to an open declaration of the line of diplomacy to be be pursued, it can be stated with truth that one of the subjects to which Mr. Cushing will give his attention will be the policy of political and administrative reforms in Cuba as the best means calculated to restore peace to that island and promote its prosperity, and among those reforms is included the abolition of slavery in the Antilles.

These views have respectfully been enforced both in the President's annual messages and official correspondence of Secretary Fish, and which have been often communicated to the Spanish cabinet. It will be recollected that several years ago our government tendered its good offices to Spain in the hope of Cuban pacification, but which were respectfully declined on the basis suggested.

It is not improbable that a similar tender will again be made by the new minister as the administration will resort to every proper expedient for the purpose of restoring peace, and of protecting the American interests in Cuba and adjacent waters, and there can be no doubt that an effort will be made to conclude a new commercial treaty with Spain of friendship limits and navigation.

NEW YORK.

A WHOLESALE ARREST.

NEW YORK, December 29.—Centre street was crowded to-day by idle and curious people gathered to witness the march to the Tombs Police Court from Police Headquarters of the 250 men and women, boys and girls arrested last evening while dancing in the Union Assembly rooms. As the prison pens of the court were not intended for so many persons, the magistrate sent for the Warden of the Tombs, and on being informed by that official that he had accommodations for the crowd, all were sent to prison pending an investigation of their several cases.

MISCELLANEOUS DISPATCHES.

A large number of persons were anxious to see the Virginius prisoners, but were unable to do so, as strict orders had been given not to allow any person to see them without a pass from Capt. Chandler. The prisoners have forwarded a memorial to President Grant, expressing their heartfelt and grateful thanks for the energetic measures taken for their timely rescue and delivery.

The trial of Maggie Jourdan for aiding in the escape of Sharkey, convicted of murder, from the tombs was begun to-day in the court of general session.

The Court of Oyer and Terminer was crowded to-day, in expectation of the contempt case of Sheriff Brennan in permitting the escape of Harry Genet, would proceed. Postponement, however, was granted until Monday next.

The trial of ex-senator Wm. M. Graham, late president of the Walkill National Bank, charged with embezzling $400,000 of the funds of the bank was commenced this afternoon in the United States Court before Judge Benedict. A jury was obtained and the court adjourned until to-morrow.

THE NAVY YARD.

NEW YORK, December 30.—The report that a large number of men will be discharged from the navy yard on Wednesday next, is said to be unfounded. Orders were received from Wasnington merely directing the heads of departments at the yard to discharge workmen as circumstances may permit. There are now three thousand two hundred workmen employed at the yard, besides about five hundred in the employ of outside contractors. The appropriations are only sufficient to keep sixteen hundred men at work, but a considerable number will be kept engaged all winter.

THE DEMPSTER INQUIRY.

WHAT THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE HAVE TO REPORT—IRREGULARITIES ADMITTED—THE AUTHOR OF THE CHARGES AGAINST THE CITY ENGINEER FAILS TO PRODUCE ANY WITNESSES—SOME SPECIAL PLEADING—RECOMMENDATIONS—RETRENCHMENT, ETC.

The Kirk-Dempster Investigating Committee presented their report to Councils Monday afternoon. In the Common Branch it was adopted without discussion. The Select body, however, listened with tedious patience to several windy harrangues, and, after all, accepted it.

After reciting the appointment of the committee, the report says that at the first meeting—

Mr. W. M. DeCamp, a clerk in the City Treasurer's office, was called and duly sworn, for the purpose of showing that Mr. Dempster had received the several sums of money from the City Treasurer as enumerated in the charge. Mr. Dempster has informed the committee that he would admit the receipt of the sum of money charged, and was ready to account for the same. Mr. DeCamp was permitted to retire, and Mr. Dempster was duly sworn and put under examination.

A resolution was passed unanimously requesting Mr. Kirk to furnish to the Committee the names of witnesses by whom the fact set out in the charges could be sustained.

From Mr. Dempster's testimony the following facts were elicited: At the time of Mr. Dempster's entrance upon the performance of the duties of City Engineer a large number of street improvements under the Penn avenue act were in progress, and these were followed by many others. Under this system of street improvement, each Commission had been in the habit of employing separate and independent engineers, usually drawing away for this purpose, persons in the employ of the city engineer, and engaged in city work. Those drafts upon the engineering force of the city began to embarass the operations of the engineering department from the very evident fact that difficulty must be experienced in such a corps when the force is being continually deprived of its experienced leaders.

Upon consultation with various members of Councils, especially with the chairman and members of the Survey Committee, and members of the Street Committee, the City Engineer decided to adopt the plan of having engineering work done upon streets improved under the Penn avenue act (as far as the same might be practicable), by one or more corps of engineers, who should be paid for such work upon pay-rolls separate and distinct from those made up for engineering belonging legitimately to the city, with bonds from the commissions. Such labor and expenses connected therewith as might be performed by the corps of engineers when working for the various Street Improvement Commissions, to be charged to the several commissions, and payment for the same to be made by them, through Mr. Dempster, after the payments made for field and office labor, purchase of instruments and incidental expenses, (vouchers for which expenditures, as far as reported, accompany this report), the balance when collected, to be paid into the city treasury.

This plan of conducting the business—though in the opinion of your committee irregular, and open to grave objections, was adopted by Mr. Dempster, with the advice, knowledge and approbation of some of the most prominent members of the Councils, with the members of various Street Improvement Commissions, for the reason that if he collected the money from the Improvement Commission, and paid it directly into the Treasury, it would then have gone into the general fund, and could not, under any circumstances, have been used for the purpose for which it was collected and paid into the Treasury; but the payments for such labor and expenses must be met out of the appropriations for streets, which appropriation would have been reduced to the extent of such payments, and thereby rendered inadequate for the purposes for which it was appropriated.

It appears, further, to your committee that the adoption of the above plan resulted in much less expense to the property owner along the avenue, to which it was applied for the engineering labor, than if engineers had been employed to do the work by the various Commissioners independent of the city engineer, and also secured the services of competent engineers at the rate paid by the city to do the work under the supervision of the City Engineer, who would probably have been hired by the Commissioners to do the same work at higher rates, and independent of his control.

In the investigation of the several charges, your committee endeavored to take them up in the order in which they are set forth. However, great difficulty was experienced in the taking of testimony to confine it to any particular charge, and, in fact, your committee found that it was unnecessary to pursue these investigations in relation to any of the charges except the first, second, third and fourth, as no testimony in support of the fifth and sixth charges could be obtained. They were, therefore, abandoned by your committee on the statement of the attorney of Mr. Kirk, who admitted that they knew there was nothing in the charges, but made said charges, hoping that the evidence might bring something out to sustain them, which was not done.

As to the second charge, three of our committee find that it is not sustained by the evidence.

As to the allegations contained in the first, third and fourth charges, they relate solely to the organization of the independent corps of engineers, before mentioned under the Penn avenue act of certain streets except the single item contained in the eleventh specification, which relates to the regulating of a switch for Laughlin & Co. In this case there was an ordinance of Councils requiring the City Engineer to regulate the laying down of this switch, for which the City Engineer charged said parties fifty dollars, part of which sum has been paid to the persons who did the work and the balance charged to his account as City Engineer, to be paid to the city.

The remaining specifications in the first charge, relate to the several sums of money received by the City Engineer from the different commissions for the improvement of the streets mentioned As to the moneys received from these sources, and all others, your committee find that the City Engineer has collected $5,253 75, against this amount, the city engineer has paid to the independent corps of engineers employed upon these streets, for instruments which he purchased under authority from committees, and under the city treasury, the sum of $6,413 54, leaving a balance in favor of the City Engineer and against the different commissioners $1,159,79.

The committee find further, the City Engineer has charged to the different avenues improved under the Penn avenue act, the sum of $6,124 50 for engineering done on said avenues, partly by the Second corps and partly by engineers who were on the city pay roll. Of the above amount he has received $3,407 50, which has been paid up as above stated leaving a balance due and uncollected from said avenues of $2,717, which when collected, will go first to the payment of $1,159 79 due the City Engineer, and the reminder in the City Treasury. In relation to the monies collected from Neville and Forbes streets, it is clear that it should have been paid into the City Treasury directly, instead of being paid out by the City Engineer to the independent corps, or for instruments. This, in the opinion of the committee, was the only positive error committed by the City Engineer in the appropriation of these unds.

Your committee are unable to find any fraudulent appropriation of city funds by the Chief Engineer, or that he has obtained or intended to obtain any profit or personal emolument for himself.

Your committee, in view of the irregularity of this independent engineers' corps, would respectfully recommend Councils to require the City Engineer to abandon it, and that Councils make some provision by which the engineering on streets, improved under the Penn avenue act, shall hereafter be done by engineers in the employ of the city and under the control of the City Engineer, as a measure of economy to the property owners on such streets, and to secure a uniform management of the engineer corps of the city, and as being more in compliance with the provisions of the Penn avenue act.

Your committee further recommend that the City Engineer be required to promptly collect the amounts due from these several Commissions, pay the balance into the treasury, and render a full statement of his account therein to Councils.

THE COURTS.

John Pope, alias Hamill, charged by Elizabeth Pfeiffer with aggravated assault and battery, was acquitted.

Patrick McNally, of North Fayette township, plead nolle contendere to two indictments for illegal liquor selling. The prosecutor was Joseph McMasters.

John Blair and D. F. Pennington plead nolle contendere to a charge of assault and battery, preferred by Wm. Dunn.

Thomas F. McClintock, charged with larceny by bailee, F. B. Cooper prosecutor, was acquitted.

F. B. Cooper, charged by Thomas F. McClintock with adultery, was found guilty.

Adolph Swanzig was found guilty of assault and battery on F. Thaurnburg.

The argument list occupies the attention of both the Common Pleas and District Courts.

TUESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Court of Quarter Sessions—Judge Sterrett.

Catharine Sparch, charged with larceny as bailee, was acquitted.

Catharine Gunnen was acquitted of a charge of assault and battery on Mrs. Stark.

The case of Giles S. Faulk and John Moore, charged with the murder of Wm. Young, a child, on Sunday the 16th of last June, was next taken up and is still on trial. Our readers will recollect that on the day named, Faulk and Moore were amusing themselves by rolling stones and stumps down the hill overlooking Butcher's run, in Allegheny, and one of the latter struck the child, killing him almost instantly.

The District and Common Pleas Courts are still occupied in hearing the argument list. Attorneys are notified that the argument list of the District Court is on the second and last call, and that cases, whether attorneys are present or not, will be disposed of as they are called.

WORKINGMEN'S MEETING.

SOUTHSIDE LABORERS RESOLVE TO HAVE EITHER FOOD OR EMPLOYMENT FROM THE CITY.

An adjourned meeting, composed principally of German workingmen or laborers, was held last evening at Fountain Hall, corner of Twenty-sixth and Carson street, South Side, to devise ways and means to relieve the suffering occasioned by the dearth of employment. Mr. Frick was chosen President, Mr. Neuman, Vice President and Mr. Falls, Secretary. Extended remarks were made on the situation and the prospect by Messrs. Bruck and Frick. It was then resolved to form an organization from the various wards, having for its object the securing of employment from the city authorities. In the event of the city not being able to give employment it was resolved to demand food from the city directly. This, it was expressly declared in the resolution, was not intended to signify, that the petitioners were beggars but free and independent workingmen, who simply demanded their rights.

After appointing a committee on organization the meeting adjourned.

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.

On Christmas day a party of five went out gunning near Legionville Station on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad. One of them named Massey, about fourteen yeers of age, in crossing a log fell and the concussion caused a shot gun which he was carrying to explode, the contents taking effect upon the balance of the party. One of the party, J. Baker, was shot in his face, one of his eyes being severely injured. The doctor in attendance however thinks he will regain his sight. A young man named Walker was shot in the shoulder and face, but not seriously injured. All will recover.

COMMON PLEAS JURORS.

Below will be found the names of two juries drawn for the third Monday of January, 1874, and the first Monday of February. The names of the jurors drawn for the first Monday of next month have already been published:

Third Monday, January, 1874—Thomas Jones, A. G. Cabbage, Thomas McCance, Geo. Bannantine, Wm. Jolm, John Black, John Bailey, Edward Du Barry, John McPherson, Jno. W. Chalfant, H. Plelp, Jas. Suter, Jos. C. Stewart, J. F. Schroth, Jno. Owens, Francis Gibson, Wm. Beckett, Duncan Dallas, J. A. Martin, Jas. Gregg, William McBrier, Thos. Algeo, Wm. Cline, Jas. Miller, Henry Duff, James Morgan, Wm. McNamee, John McKelvey, James Park, Hugh Donaldson, Chas. Wolfendale, Lewis Neil, A. Canfield, Martin Biggs, Samuel B. Moore, Samuel S. Clark, Henry Stewart, Wm. Johnson, John McCrum, Sampson Harrison, Wm. Brown, John M. Kelsey, Jacob Hamen, William Crouch, Wm. Algeo, Frederick Deitrich, Geo. A. Lashell, S. M. Porter, James A. Herron, A. H. Mahoffey, Andrew Sanders, Anthony Boulier, Fred. Heiber, Capt. Thomas McClosky, Edward Houae, Philip Reimensnyder, Jas. Blackstock, Jerry Sullivan, Jr., Geo. Keyser.

First Monday in February—Henry Anschutz, Wm. Rankin, Jos. Cunningham, Jno. Allen, Peter Dunn, Robert Thompson, Casper Hilterbach, John Fairchild, Wm. Burns, Thos. E. Kerr, Wm. Bostwick, Jos. Devlin, Wm. Kerr, Thos. Loughrey, Wm. Carter, T. B. Young. Jno. J. O'Donnell, Geo. Dietrich, John Ahl, Jas. McRoberts, Wm. Cartwright, W. A. Hothouse, Robt. Miller, Peter Johnson, John Crow, B. B. Haseltine, Geo. Thompson, John S. Long, James Marshall, George Linn, Henry Welsh, T. H. Nevin, Francis Hall, L. C. Cune, A. Wadsworth, Alex. Brown James Dunn, James Arbuthnot, G. B. Lindsey, Saml. Murphy, Edward McAfee, J. B. Meanor, Jos. Watson, Frank Anderson, John Swan, Chas. Schutz, Wm. Wooder, Jno. Callahan, A. H. Miller, Jr., Jas. S. Hays, Jno. Henderson, Richard Phillips, Conrad Zeiglar, S. H. Morgan, A. Hartupe, W. S. Canning, J. A. Martin, Maurice Flynn, Michael Knowles.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

At a regular semi-annual election held by Madoc Lodge, No. 229, Knights of Pythias, on Monday evening, the following officers were elected to serve the ensuing term: David R. Lewis, C. C.; Jacob H. Fuller, V. C.; Robert S. Jones, P.; David P. Rising, M. at A.; O. M. Shane, M. of F.; Thomas K. Pritchard, M. of Ex.; Thomas J. Jones, K. of R. S.; Evan E. Jones, I. G.; John Rummel, O. G.; Trustee of Lodge, S. F. D. Jones; Trustee of Widow and Orphan Fund, D. L. Evans.

A MAN named Dillinger was struck by a hand car while crossing a railroad near Washington, Pa., and knocked off, receiving injuries that will perhaps terminate fatally.

A DUCAL WEDDING—MATRIMONY IN A FEUDAL CASTLE.

The English papers arriving by the last mail devote much space to accounts of the marriage of Lady Mary Montagu to the Duke of Hamilton. The affair took place at Kimbolton Castle, on the 9th inst. The correspondent of the London News writes:

"Emerging from the gloom of London yesterday afternoon, those travelers who were bound for Kimbolton soon shook off the dispiriting influences of premature midnight, and dwelt with satisfaction upon the cheerful augury of the brightening skies. It was at Baden, where his mother as a member of the reigning family in the Grand Duchy principally resides, that the Duke of Hamilton first met Lady Mary Montagu, who is the oldest daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Manchester; and the acquaintance soon deepened into affection. Although this is not the fashionable season for weddings, the ceremony was arranged to take place in December, and, by mutual agreement, at Kimbolton instead of in London.

"The bride's wedding presents were so costly and so numerous that an enumeration of them would fill columns of this journal. The Queen, the Emperor and Empress of Germany—who are connections of the bridegroom—the Prince and Princess of Wales, and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, all sent some valuable gift, which will become heirlooms in the Hamilton family.

THE WEDDING CEREMONY.

"The castle stands at one end of the street which leads down to the church, so all the inhabitants were enabled to witness the procession. Those who had tickets to the church took up their position in good time, and when the cheering outside announced the arrival of the wedding party there was scarcely a vacant place. The sun shone brightly, and, glancing athwart one of the stained-glass windows, it lighted up a very tastefully decorated chancel, devoid, however, of those ritualistic ornaments which turn a 'communion table' into an 'altar.' The Duke of Hamilton, accompanied by the Baron du Tuyil, who acted as best man was the first to arrive and the gentlemen among the castle guests were not far behind. While the bridegroom was kneeling in prayer a louder shout told us of the bride's coming, and she entered the church leaning upon her father's arm. The Duchess of Hamilton (dowager we must now add,) who had traveled over from Baden-Baden, entered the church with her daughter, the Duchess de Valentinois. The ceremony, always impressive through its very simplicity, was all the more so to-day because there was no adventitious aid in the shape of music or choristers; merely the grand old service of the Church of England, read by the Rev. F. C. Hope-Grant, Vicar of Kimbolton, assisted by Dr. Young, the Rector of Tilbrook. The bride was in white, with a veil of Brussels lace and a profusion of orange flowers; *cela va de soi.* Her four bridesmaids were Ladies Louisa and Alice Montagu, who are her younger sisters; Lady Florence Montagu, daughter of the Earl of Sandwich; and Lady Blanche Somerset, daughter of the Duke of Beaufort. Loud were the huzzahs as the newly-married pair, after the usual vestry formalities had been through, and they had walked down the isle man and wife, entered the carriage on their way back to the Castle, whither they were speedily followed by all the guests and many of the neighboring gentry who had been invited to the ceremony. The Duke of Manchester, wishing that everybody should have a share in the festivities, gave orders that the grounds of the castle should be thrown open, and a compact crowd gathered upon the lawn and walks. A *dejeuner* was provided for two hundred guests in part of the tent which had been used as a ball room the previous night, and here, in addition to the party staying in the house, most of the principal tenants and their wives assembled to drink the usual wedding toasts. The joy bells were ringing merrily and the sun shone bright and clear."

The bridal pair then left for the Duke of Hamilton's seat in Suffolk, whence they proceeded on a wedding tour in a private steam yacht to Egypt. The wedding was also celebrated on the Duke's Scottish estates. A ball was given in the Assembly Rooms at Hamilton to six hundred people, and the tenantry on the Hamilton and Kinniel estates were entertained at a grand banquet in the riding-school of the Duke's palace. The heights were bright with bonfires.

A SPANISH AMUSEMENT.

It was a piping hot day in July last, and we were all in this house fairly exhausted with the long unbroken drought and heat, when my friend said: "Let us join the ladies to-morrow, and get a bath in the river." The thought of any change to break the monotony of daily life, especially by the coolness of a bath in the Guadalquivir, was tempting, and I thankfully accepted the proposal. We had a long ride (three miles) across the "campo," or open country, to get to the river, so it was arranged that we should ride down thither at sunrise, 4 o'clock, the following morning, the senoras going in a springless covered cart before us. At last we were at the river; and for the first time I stood on the banks of the far-famed Guadalquivir. Our bathing-place and our method were as follows: First we unsaddled our horses, put a halter on them, and gladly they plunged into our bathing-place to enjoy the bath. I stood still to see the place. A magnificent view it was. A few miles in front, stretching further than the eye could reach, lay the serrated edges of the Sierra Morena. In the river bed all was fertile and green, and all along its peaceful banks, and overhanging its waters, were the beautiful rose-pink oleanders, the "lillies of the valley of well loved story. An old mill-house, with its clumsy wheel, and a couple of promegranates shaded one corner of this part of the river; and under their shade, sitting up to their shoulders in the water, on the huge round boulders of which the bottom of the river is composed, were groups of Spanish ladies. Truly it was a pretty sight. They sat, as though on chairs, clothed to the neck in bathing-gowns of the gaudiest colors—red, grey, yellow, and blue—and holding in one hand their umbrellas, and with the other hand fanning themselves, they formed a most picturesque group. Just above them we were fain to undress and tumble in, and we too, like them, sat down on the boulder chairs (the river was not above four or five feet deep) and lazily allowed the fast-flowing yellow stream—it is full of iron and sulphur—to soothe our skin and nerves, and give us strength and cooiness. I thought the bathing promiscuously was enough; but suddenly I heard shouts on the further bank, and a crowd of muleteers and mules came down the rocky incline for their morning's bath. In a moment two of the men were undressed, and mules and men struggling about the yellow water. I narrowly escaped being struck with the front hoof of one of the former. They, like ourselves, sat in the cool current for one hour, then slowly left the rio and crawled up the bank. For ourselves—ladies and men—we spread our "mantas" (rugs) on the sandy bank and slowly dressed. "Will you not bathe once more this summer?" said I to a Spanish lady. "No, indeed not," was the answer. I have had my baths up to the odd number." What her special odd number was I know not; but all the Spaniards have a fixed number of baths, beyond which they think wrong to go; and in all cases it must be, they believe, for health's sake, an odd number!—[Macmillan's Magazine.

MARRIAGES OF BLOOD RELATIONS.

Statistics presented to the French Academy show that the marriages of blood relations form about two per cent of all the marriages in France, and that the deaf and dumb offspring, at birth of consanguineous marriages, are, in proportion to the deaf and dumb born in ordinary wedlock—at Lyons, full 25 per cent; at least 25 per cent in Paris, and 30 per cent in Bordeaux—the proportions of the deaf and dumb, by birth, increasing with the degree of blood relationship. The data obtain d show that, if the danger of having a deaf and dumb child in ordinary marriages, represented by figures, is one, there will be 18 in marriages between first cousins, 37 in marriages between uncles and nieces, and 70 in marriages between nephews and aunts. It appears, too, that the most healthy parents, if related in blood, may have deaf and dumb children; while deaf and dumb parents, if not related, very rarely have deaf and dumb children.

WHAT TROUBLES THE WASHINGTON LADIES.

[Washington Cor. Herald.]

The ladies of the Supreme Court come next in precedence to those of the diplomatic corps, and rule in a small circle which regards the judiciary as the highest power in the Republic—able to annul the laws which Congress has enacted and the President has signed. When Chief Justice Chase was on the Bench, his eldest daughter, Mrs. Senator Sprague, used to boldly have receptions on the same afternoon as those of Mrs. President Grant, and as there were music, dancing and a well-spread buffet at the residence of the Chief Justice, no wonder that the young dancers were attracted there rather than to the inhospitable and formal saloons of the White House. Now that the conundrum of the day is, "Who shall be the Chief Justice?" *le beau monde* is enlisted in favor of Williams. Not that he has legal love or clean hands, but because he has just moved into a fine new house on Rhode Island avenue, where his wife will have stunning entertainments. This gives Williams the support of those who dance the German and like something stronger than claret punches. Besides, have they not heard that had not Williams received the appointment it would have been given to Caleb Cushing, that hermit-like old widower, who sleeps in his back office and wears on state occasions a claw-hammer coat made when John Tyler was President. Some of the dowagers made a fuss about the appointment of Judge Williams, but the dancing portion of Vanity Fair urge his confirmation. Will it be done? The Chief Justice pro tempore is the senior Justice, Clifford, of Maine, who measures sixty inches around the waistband, and is a sedate, solemn, old slow coach. He boards with his wife at the National Hotel, where he enjoys Tenney's best cheer, and wonders why the people would amend the Constitution, thus giving the Supreme Court a deal of trouble. Justices Swayne, Field, Strong and Bradley are each accompanied by a wife and daughter, and Mr. Justice Hunt has his wife here. As each one of these ladies is at home on

THE COURTS.

WEDNESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Court of Quarter Sessions—Judge Sterrett.

Martin Ludwig, charged with fornix et cet, plead guilty.

Darragh Mellon and Napoleon Beaumont, indicted for larceny were acquitted.

Daniel Pogle and Frank Fisher were found guilty of forcible entry, and the first sentenced to pay a fine of ten dollars and costs, and the second five dollars and costs.

Isaac Curry, indicted for felonious assault and battery on Rosa Peyton, was found guilty of unlawful cutting and wounding.

Charles Zinzer, charged by Joseph Rodgers with the larceny of some lumber, was acquitted.

Robert E. Conner, indicted for seduction and fornication at the instance of Fanny Conner, plead guilty to the latter charge.

Joseph Rodgers and John Thompson were both tried on cross suits for larceny, and the Judge instructed the jury in each case to return a verdict of not guilty. It seems the parties had each purchased the same stove and some chairs, and each paid five dollars on the purchase. As both appear to have an equal right to the property the court refused to adjudicate between them.

The jury were discharged until Monday morning.

Court of Common Pleas—Judges Stowe and Collier.

A verdict for plaintiff for $86 43 was rendered in the case of George Windsor vs. The Pleasant Valley Passenger Railroad. The action was for work and labor done.

In the matter of voluntary assignment of the Security Trust Company to Geo. A. Berry, the Court appointed John D. Scully and W. A. Herron, appraisers.

George Emeric vs. George McCombs and J. L. Lloyd. Plaintiff took a non-suit.

J. Kearney vs. Pittsburgh and Castle Shannon Railroad. Judgment of non-suit entered.

The jury in the case of Edward Bourne vs. The Roman Catholic Orphans' Asylum was unable to agree, and were discharged.

District Court—Judges Ewing and White.

In the case of J. Sharp McDonald vs. the owners of the steam tug Dodsworth a verdict was rendered for defendants.

In the case of Huckestine vs. Lamon, Sr., the jury found for the plaintiff and assessed the damages at 6¼ cents.

No other business of importance was transacted and the Court adjourned until Monday next, when the argument list will be taken up.

SATURDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Court of Common Pleas—Judge Sterrett.

In the matter of the application of the School Directors of the Morse sub-school district to borrow money to build a school house, the Directors were authorized to borrow an amount not to exceed $25,438 70, at a rate not exceeding eight per cent. per annum.

In the matter of the voluntary assignment of John Howarth, the Court appointed Samuel Lindsey and Wm. Johnston as apprisers to appraise the estate of said assignee.

In the District Court no business of general interest was transacted.

The Criminal Court was not in session. In the latter the following is the

(From the Daily Post of Thursday.)

A DARKNESS THAT COULD BE FELT.

A GLOOMY DAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS—LANTERNS AN ARTICLE OF PRIME NECESSITY AT MIDDAY.

Whether the murkiness of the atmosphere yesterday was caused by a slice of the London fog which had drifted over this way, or a fog raised by the Ring throwing dust in our eyes, or ne of themo the dark days prophesied, and out of which Second Adventists take so much somfort, are questions for which no definite olution can at present be given. Even Old Probabilities appears to have been caught napping, as he said nothing about it in any of the daily editions of his almanac. The day, however, was not the darkest ever known in this city, the "oldest inhabitant and George Washington's body servant, to the contrary notwithstanding, as another day some twenty years ago was equally as dark, if not darker. Like the darkness that distressed the Egyptians in Pharaoh's time, however, it was one that could be felt, and cut with a cheese knife. Between seven and eight o'clock there appeared to be slight indications of a struggle between the Sun's rays and Cimmerian gloom that overspread the earth, but it was soon painfully evident that the conflict was unequal and Old Sol withdrew and left the world, or at least Pittsburgh, to its fate. Before noon the Courts were transacting business under the gas light while the rotunda of the Court House was so dark that objects were indistinguishable at a distance of three feet. Finally finding the illuminating fluid furnished by the Pittsburgh Gas Company unable to dispel the gloom, the Courts adjourned to get ready for Christmas. The Register's clerks, after borrowing all the spare lamps about the Court House, also suspended business.

The only parties who showed a persistence worthy of a better cause were the City Hall Ring, who, rather than jeopardize the interests of the people by allowing any interloper to make the riffle in the race for the Controllership, would have gone on their marrow-bones with a locomotive lamp and reflector between their teeth rather than have missed their way to City Hall. On some of the street car lines lamps were lighted to enable the conductors to make change. The Cincinnati Express, which left at noon on the Pennsylvania Railroad, carried red lanterns instead of red flags, and flagmen on bridges and at crossings did the same. The only portion of the population who endeavored to keep up a semblance of animation and vivacity were the juvenile portion, whose faith in the advent of Kriss Kingle, and the consequent dissipation of all fog, kept alive the day star of hope in their youthful bosoms.

So far no mishaps of a serious character have been reported, though we may yet hear of accidents by field, flood and rail, especially as the latter has not been heard from. The only person so far known to have profited from the clouded condition of affairs is Johnny Robinson, who, it appears, seized the occasion to flee from justice under cover of the mist, about nine o'clock yesterday morning, since which time he has been lost to sight and memory dear.

As the darkest hour of the day is the one preceding dawn, let us hope that yesterday was but the herald of a happy Christmas to-day. In order that good digestion may wait on appetite, let us all hope so, and prepare for our Christmas dinner with the expectation that "Like the sun dial, we may count only sunny hours" between this and the next return of the day.

FATAL ACCIDENT.

A REPAIRMAN KILLED ON THE ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILROAD.

Hugh Gallagher, a repairman on the Allegheny Valley Railroad, with three other men went to Metcandess Station to mend a broken rail on Tuesday night. Having finished their work at two o'clock yesterday morning, they started toward the city on a hand car. At the American Oil Works siding, the car ran into a freight train which was shifting cars upon the siding, and Gallagher was thrown under the train, receiving injuries from which he died about two hours afterward. Coroner West was summoned and [illegible]. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. Gallagher was about forty-six years of age and leaves a wife and family. The other men were thrown to one side of the track by the collision and escaped injury.

ANOTHER MUNICIPAL FARCE!

THE KIRK-DEMPSTER INQUIRY.

YESTERDAY'S SESSION OF THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE — NO WITNESSES FOR THE PROSECUTION—THE DEFENSE GIVEN FULL SWING TO MAKE OUT THEIR OWN CASE—END OF THE INQUIRY—THE COMMITTEE DECIDE TO REPORT TO COUNCILS ON MONDAY—PROBABLE TENOR OF THEIR REPORT.

The Kirk-Dempster Investigation Committee met again Friday afternoon, and resumed the examination.

DEMPSTER IN HIS OWN DEFENSE.

City Engineer Dempster was re-called and subjected to a cross-examination by J. F. Slagle, Esq., counsel for Mr. Dave Kirk. Very little, however, was elicited further than had been admitted by Mr. Dempster on his first examination. The chief portion of his testimony was as follows:

There are about forty men employed in my office; I ceased to employ men on the pay roll in June; I took the men off the pay rolls of the city; they were employed by me individually at wages of from $125 to $150 per month; part of the work on the streets was

DONE BY MEN BELONGING TO THE CITY CORPS;

In one sense they are in the employ of the city, and in another they are not; don't know who they look to for pay; I employed them to do such work as I direct, and they do it; they

GET THEIR MONEY FROM ME,

whether I get it from the city or not; the men were employed constantly; sometimes they were employed on city work in the immediate vicinity; they were paid according to the time employed in doing the work; my account with the Butler street Commission is still open; I received $800 from them on account; the account with the Ellsworth avenue Commission is also open; received $800 from the Forbes street Commission, money of which has been paid into the city; the work was done by men not in the employ of the city; think Mr. Chislett asked me to do the work on Stanton avenue;

DON'T THINK

I told Mr. Kirk that the work must be done by the city; don't recollect of telling any of the Commissioners that I was employing a private corps to do the work; don't think I told anyone that it was my business as City Engineer to do the work, and that the Commissioners had no right to employ any one else; the assistant in charge of each corps keeps the time of the men and returns it to me; at the end of every month I know what each street

OUGHT TO PAY;

don't remember of any bills being presented only for Highland avenue, received the money on account; don't know whether the Commissioners knew I was keeping two accounts, one for them and one for the city; I charged the Commissioners at the rate of six dollars, five dollars and three dollars each for the men employed; I fix the price which I think will cover the expenses and pay the man for his time;

MY ACCOUNTS

will show how much each avenue is entitled to pay for the work done on it; the amount charged up to the first of December for each street is as follows, (I may say that some of them are up to December 20:)

Butler street	$ 992 00
Ellsworth avenue	1,033 00
Forbes street	950 00
Hiland avenue	954 00
Hiland avenue, south	102 00
Liberty avenue	266 00
Lincoln avenue	220 00
Main street	75 00
Neville street	470 00
Pearl street	200 00
Shady lane	275 00
Thirty-third street	187 50
Walnut street	125 00

My accounts will show when the work was commenced on each of these; the commissions employed me on Shady lane and Walnut street; the Liberty avenue commission wanted me to employ an outside corps, but I refused; there was a contest for the position of engineer; know that Councilman

KIRK WORKED VERY HARD FOR HIS FRIEND,

and I guess there were several other applicants; the Commission wanted me to recommend a man for the work all the time, when I refused to do it with an outside corps; I recommended Mr. Howatt, don't know whether he does any work outside of Liberty avenue; some of the instruments were paid for by the city and some by me; think I did not lay out a plan of lots for Dr. Gross.

To Mr. Lloyd—The $450 that I paid for Neville street I advanced; it will eventually go into the city treasury.

To Mr. Semple—In regard to the election of Mr. Howatt for Liberty avenue Commissioner, there was opposition; Mr. Kirk was pushing the claims of Mr. Lawrence.

HAVE RECEIVED NO EMOLUMENT.

To Mr. E. P. Jones—The streets under my supervision improved under the Penn avenue act cost far less than if they had been improved by an independent corps of engineers; my object in undertaking them was to save money to the city; I have received no personal profit or emolument from any of the Commissions.

Mr. Slagle at this point offered in evidence the private pay rolls of Mr. Dempster; also the minute book showing the election of Mr. Dempster as private engineer of the Liberty Avenue Commission, and fixing his salary at $2,500 per annum.

Mr. Slagle further stated that as far as he and his client were concerned, they would rest. They were of the decided opinion that they had made out their case fully, and that it was unnecessary to call any more witnesses.

Dr. Gross was called and explained that the Liberty avenue Commission were anxious to secure the services of Mr. Dempster, but the had declined to accept. The minutes of the Commission seem to be incomplete. No doubt the Secretary, R. M. Snodgrass, can explain the matter. Mr. Dempster had intimated to me before the election that he would accept; afterwards Mr. Snodgrass told me that Mr. Dempster would not accept; Messrs. Lyons and Smith testified that they were members of the Butler Street Commission; that they had engaged Mr. Dempster to superintend the improvement of that thoroughfare; that their understanding with the City Engineer was that he was to employ assistants and be paid for actual expenses.

At this point, Mr. Martin, assistant Engineer, was called. His evidence merely corroborated that of Mr. Dempster.

Mr. Dempster here rested the case.

Mr. Slagle thereupon closed the case for the prosecution by asserting that all the charges brought by his client had been proved.

At the conclusion of his remarks Mr. Dempster spoke at length in his own behalf, claiming that none of the charges had been made out against him, and that the most that could be alleged against him was slight irregularity.

The Commission then went into Secret Session for the purpose of delegating to a sub-committee the duty of preparing a report for presentation to Councils on Monday. It is understood that this report will fully exonerate Mr. Dempster. The sub-committee consist of Messrs E. P. Jones, Fulton, Semple, Follansbee and McConway. It is stated the report will recommend that hereafter all moneys received by the City Engineer for work done will be paid directly into the City Treasury.

THE END OF IT.

LAST OF THE FIRE COMMISSION INVESTIGATION—JOHN A. M'KELVY ON THE WITNESS STAND—THE STORY OF THAT WAGON CONTRACT—"SHOWING UP" OR "FIXING"—PROBABLE TENOR OF THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT TO COUNCILS TO-DAY.

The useless and unnecessary investigation into the affairs of the Board of Fire Commissioners in consequence of the groundless charges brought against the members by an evening paper, closed on Saturday afternoon. The Committee making the inquiry met at four o'clock and proceeded to examine witnesses.

THE WAGON CONTRACT.

Mr. Wilson, President of the Commission, was first sworn, and during his examination by Mr. McCarthy testified that after considerable talk by the Commission it was decided to purchase a wagon. He placed himself in correspondence with a couple of Eastern houses, and obtained two proposals therefrom. He also obtained a proposal from Mr. McKelvy, of this city, and endeavored to obtain bids from other carriage makers in the city, but they refused to make any. Fulton, Walker & Co., of Philadelphia, offered to furnish the wagon on board the cars, at Philadelphia, for $375; Walker & Co., of Philadelphia, made a similar offer. It was ascertained that the freight to Pittsburgh would be about $20, which would make the price of the wagon $395. Mr. McKelvy offered to build the wagon for $350, to guarantee it for one year and to keep it in repair, free of charge, for one year. The matter was referred to the Monthly Committee and after consideration the contract was awarded to Mr. McKelvy at the price stated.

JOHN A. M'KELVY'S STATEMENT.

Mr. John A. McKelvy was then sworn and testified as follows: That he received the order for the wagon and was instructed to hurry it up, as the Department wanted it for the parade on Thanksgiving day. He had sent to Cincinnati for Sarvan patent wheels, and having in the meantime received an order for a buck wagon for the Assistant Engineer, Mr. Hammil, which was also required by Thanksgiving day, he found he could not complete both. He thereupon consulted Messrs. Knoch & Lang, of Allegheny city, and after considerable delay succeeded in getting them to build the wagon for $275. When they presented the bill it amounted to $285—the extra $10 being for lettering, but Mr. McKelvy held them to the bargain, and paid only the $275—the firm signing the receipt for $285. He then trimmed up the wagon, furnished cushions, &c., and turned it over to the city, and a similar wagon purchased in the East, he said, would not cost a farthing less than $400. Subsequently he received a postal card from Messrs. Knoch & Lang, stating that unless he paid over the remaining $10 they would

SHOW HIM UP OR FIX HIM.

They never got the $10, however, and never will. Mr. McKelvy also stated that he made between $20 and $30 on the wagon, and he offers to give any carriage maker that sum if he will assume to keep it in repair for one year.

In reply to the questions of the Committee Mr. McKelvy said Messrs. Knoch & Lang had offered to furnish him 600 carriages at $550 each if he would use his influence and obtain them the contract for the repairs to the apparatus of the Pittsburgh department.

To Mr. Semple—I don't think the hose carriages could have been purchased cheaper. They are handsomely painted, and were obtained at a reasonable price. Steel springs may brack the first day they are used, and they may last for twenty years.

President Wilson said he had written to the Amoskeag Company in reference to the breaking of the springs, and the Company had forwarded new ones with the request that all repairs of this character be charged to them.

Mr. Jno. J. Torley, who was absent when the Commissioners took their oath that they had never received anything, directly or indirectly, on account of contracts, or that they had any knowledge of the Commissioners' receiving presents of rewards, then subscribed to a similar oath.

This concluded the testimony, and the Committee went into a secret session for the purpose of preparing their report to Councils. It may be stated that they have made a searching examination of all the books, vouchers, papers and accounts of the Fire Commission, and found every item correct even to a cent.

It is understood the report of the Investigating Committee will not only exonerate the Fire Commission from all the charges brought against them, but will commend them for their efficient and economic management of their department.

STRIKE OF ENGINEERS.

THE DRIVERS OF THE IRON HORSE ON ALL WESTERN LINES LEADING FROM THE CITY DEMAND FORMER RATES.

(From Daily Post of Saturday.)

Yesterday at noon a general strike was inaugurated among the locomotive engineers employed on the Fan Handle Railroad, the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, the Erie & Pittsburgh Railroad, and the Cleveland & Pittsburgh Railroad, these lines all being controlled and operated by the Pennsylvania Company. The cause of the strike is given as follows: All of the roads named were reduced ten per cent. on their wages the first of the present month. This reduction included the salaries of all officials, clerks, conductors, engineers and other employees. After consultation, the engineer concluded to demand a restoration of the former prices, and if not granted, to declare a general strike the day after Christmas. The restoration of former prices was not granted, and at noon yesterday the strike commenced. Superintendent McCullough received a notification on Christmas that a strike would take place, but no time was stated. The report, however, soon gained currency that the strike would take place yesterday, and the actions of the engineers were watched with much anxiety. All the trains went out as usual in the forenoon, but in the afternoon and up to a late hour this morning it was with the greatest difficulty that any one could be found to run an engine. All the officials of each of the companies above named who understood this branch of railroading were pressed into service.

The strike is pretty general, including 1,400 out of about 2,000 engineers. At present writing there does not appear any prospect of a compromise.

THE GREAT STRIKE.

NEITHER SIDE SHOWS ANY SIGN OF WEAKENING—STAGNATION OF BUSINESS—THE SIDINGS FULL OF FREIGHT TRAINS—MEETINGS OF ENGINEERS, FIREMEN AND BRAKEMEN.

We stated on Saturday there appeared to be no prospect of a compromise between the Pennsylvania Company and the striking employees of the company, and events since seem to promise that unless the company weaken a compromise is out of the question. On Saturday morning, Division 17, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, met in Odd Fellows Hall, corner of Beaver avenue and Juniata street, Allegheny.

This division comprises the locomotive engineers of the Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne and Chicago Railway, and the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad. The attendance numbered four hundred persons, although there were some in the hall not members of the Brotherhood. The greater part of the brakemen, as well as the firemen, are taking part, and we are told, the majority of the

CONDUCTORS WILL JOIN

the movement. The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. J. G. Sample, who addressed his auditors at some length. He detailed the origin of the strike, and gave an account of his interview with Superintendent McCullough. He said that he had been to him Monday morning and Monday evening, and again on Tuesday morning, but was unable to effect any arrangement that would be satisfactory. Finally Mr. McCullough said the company would not yield to their demands, and that they might strike if they wished to. When Mr. Sample had concluded Mr. F. H. Gregory, of Columbus, addressed the meeting, congratulating the members on the orderly way in which they had conducted the strike thus far and recommended continuance in the same line of conduct with an unalterable determination to win, and he assured them they would in the end triumph. He assured them that the engineers of the Cleveland and Pittsburgh road were with them, (some doubt having been entertained that the employees of this road would stand with the strikers.)

The strikers generally held that if the Pennsylvania Company was

ABLE TO PURCHASE

a new railroad, as it has done a few days ago, in the case of the Mt. Vernon, Columbus and Delaware Railroad, it was also able to pay its engineers the old prices After taking up a collection to defray incidental expenses, the meeting adjourned to meet yesterday afternoon, at half-past two o'clock.

At their meeting yesterday afternoon, the representation was very large, quite a number being unable to gain admittance to the hall. The same speakers addressed the meeting as on Saturday. Reports were read from the

PITTSBURGH AND CLEVELAND ROAD,

stating that the freight trains on this road would be run into the city, where they would be abandoned.

Mr. George Peyton gave his excuse for running his train on Saturday, which was accepted. A resolution was passed unanimously to assist any striking employee until the victory was won, a league

OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE

being concluded between engineers, firemen and brakemen, and it is said the conductors will also fall into line if the contest goes on.

A grim determination seemed to rest on the countenances of all present, and the meeting presented a fine looking set of men.

A deputation from the Pennsylvania Railroad was present, and assured their fellow workmen that they would be with them in the contest.

A meeting of engineers from the Pennsylvania Railroad was also held yesterday, at a hall on the corner of Penn and Twenty-second streets, and resolved to strike the first of the comiug month if the resolve of the company in reducing the wages be persisted in. They also appointed a committee to go to-day to Philadelphia to wait upon Col. Scott and acquaint him with their resolution. Thus far the strike has been characterized by

UNUSUAL MODERATION

on the part of the strikers. With the exception of the demonstrations at Dennison, Ohio, and Logansport, Indiana, no violence has characterized the movement.

On the part of the companies, they claim that they are paying more than is paid on the Lake Shore or Baltimore and Ohio roads, and furthermore, through the panic they have paid the employees in every department of the Pennsylvania Company and Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis roads, in full, for which between $1,000,000 and $1,200,000 per month has been disbursed; that this, through the

FALLING OFF IN TRADE,

has been a great strain on the companies. So far the greatest trouble has been experienced in the moving of freight, which is beginning to block up the warehouses and sidings to an unprecedented extent.

The mails from the west have suffered serious detention and in some cases purches have been entirely lost, occasioning considerable inconvenience, but not much positive loss. No mail matter has as yet accumulated in the office in this city,

THE BROTHERHOOD

of Locomotive Engineers, by which the strike is supported, numbers some 10,000 members with a cash capital of $500,000 which will enable the strikers to make a pretty stiff fight. The influence of the Brotherhood extends to every part of the United States and Canada.

LOCAL TRAVEL

has been greatly impeded and suburban residents have been reduced in some instances to ridiculous straits in order to reach their homes. Waiting in a railroad depot for a train to start is of all things the most annoying and one who had nothing else to occupy his mind could very profitably study the various phases of character and temperament exhibited by the diversified throng that gathered in the Union Depot on Saturday night to await the pleasure of the strikers.

PURCHASE OF A RAILROAD.

THE PENNSYLVANIA COMPANY ADD ANOTHER LINK TO THEIR CHAIN.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company have been in council at their general offices, corner of Tenth and Penn streets for two or three days this week. The Cleveland, Mount Vernon & Delaware Railroad, which has just been completed from Hudson to Columbus, the controlling interest in which was owned by the Pennsylvania Railway Company, has been formally turned over to the latter company, and in the future will be operated by the P. C. & St. L. Ry. Co. The object of the purchase is to give the Pennsylvania Company a western connection with Cleveland, which they have never yet had exclusively under their control. The new road purchased, extending from Hudson to Columbus, is 145 miles long. At Hudson it connects with the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad, and at Columbus it makes direct connection with St. Louis. The distance by the new route, which this will give, from Cleveland to St. Louis, is 597 miles. The distance from Cleveland to St. Louis by the Lake Shore and Micigan Southern route is 636 miles. This makes the new route 39 miles shorter, and gives the most direct communication between Cleveland and St. Louis.

TESTAMENTARY.

The will of Herman Borgerding, of this city, was filed for probate in the Register's office yesterday. He bequeaths all his estate, real and personal, to his wife, Maria Louise, for her maintenance and that of his children, with the reservation that if she marry again the estate remaining is to be divided among the children equally. He appoints as his executors the said Maria Louise Borgerding, John H. Runswinkle, and W. Borgerding.

The will of John Connarton, late of Allegheny City, was also filed. The testator bequeats all his property, real, personal and mixed, to his sister, Mary Caunarton, and appoints her as his executrix.

That of Mrs. Mary Jane Neeld, of Union township, was also filed. She devises to her husband E i and his heirs all her real estate; to Caroline Martin, of this city, $200; to her brother James Martin $100; to John A. Martin a note for seventy-five dollars which the testatrix holds against him; to Mrs. Hettie H. Neeld $300, to be paid within one year after the death of the testratrix. The balance of her personal estate she divises to Ella F. Martin and Charles W. Martin, to be equally divided after the death of the husband of the testatrix, who is to have the use of it during his life, free of interest. Charles Fetterman, Esq., of this city, is appointed executor.

DEATH OF AN OLD CITIZEN.

Mr. George DeCamp, father of George W. DeCamp, Esq., of this city died in Erie county on the 20th of this month aged ninety-nine years three months and six days. His father, Col. John DeCamp, came from France to this country in 1770 and settled at Winchester, Va., where the deceased was born on the 14th of September 1774. Col. John DeCamp married Susannah Gray, a cousin of James Monroe, in 1773, and the following year with his wife and infant son, the subject of this memoir, removed to the vicinity of West Newton, Westmoreland county. Deceased continued to reside in Westmoreland county until 1832 when he removed to Waterford, Erie county, where he lived until his death. Mr. DeCamp attended school in this city in 1784, the school being a private one kept by the army officers stationed here. Mr. DeCamp was a member of the Ediscopal Church and was highly esteemed by those who knew him. He retained his mental faculties unclouded until death.

A WEEK OF PRAYER.

It being proposed by the American Evangelical Alliance to inaugurate the New Year by a week of prayer, the following plan has been recommended for its observance:

Sunday, Jan. 4: Sermon—The unity of the Christian church; the real oneness of all true believers; hindrances and motive to union; the blessings to be hoped for from the union of believers in prayer.—John xvii: 21-23.

Monday, Jan. 5: Confession—Our common unworthiness and guilt. Thanksgiving—For national, domestic and personal mercies, temporal and spiritual. Supplication—For special blessings on the Week of Prayer.—Dan. ix: 7; Mal. iii: 10.

Tuesday, Jan. 6: Prayer—For the Christian Church; for her increase in faith, holiness and love; for the persecuted and suffering Christians; for Christian liberty; and for the more abundant outpouring of the Holy Spirit.—Col. i: 9-11; Heb. xiii: 3; Hab. iii: 2.

Wednesday, Jan. 7: Prayer for Families—Home and parental influence; sons and daughters, the absent, the sick, the erring; inmates of prisons; all educational institutions.—Ps. cxv: 12-13; cxliv: 12.

Thursday, Jan. 8: Prayer for Nations—For peace among men; for public virtue and righteousness; for the banishment of intemperance, dishonesty, infidelity and superstition, and for the diffusion of pure and Christian literature.—Is. lx: 17, 88.

Friday, Jan. 9: Prayer—For the evangelization of all nominally Christian countries; for the conversion of Israel; for seamen; for missionaries; for the spread of the gospel in Mohammedan and heathen countries; for the conversion of the world to Christ.—Ps. lxviii: 31; cxxii: 6; Heb. xiii: 3.

Saturday, Jan. 10: Prayer—For the Christian ministry; for Sunday Schools; for revivals.—Matt. ix: 38; Deut. iv: 9; Heb. iii: 2.

Sunday, Jan. 11: Sermons — Subject Christ's kingdom, universal and everlasting.—Ps. xcvii: 1. 2. Results of the sixth General Conference of the Evangical Alliance.

INSTANTLY KILLED.

Nicholas Miller, a contractor, was instantly killed by a fall of rock in the tunnel on the P. V. & C. R. R., at Port Perry on Saturday morning about nine o'clock Miller in company with one of his men was a short distance inside of the tunnel when they heard dirt falling from the side of the hill upon the arch. They started out to ascertain the reason when just as they reached the mouth of the tunnel a rock which had been rolled down struck the keystone of the arch knocking it out, and a mass of earth and rock fell upon the men. Miller's spine was broken and he was killed instantly. The other man whose name has not transpired was considerably injured but may recover. Both men lived in Braddock's. Corner McCallin held an inquest and a verdict in accordance with the facts was rendered. Miller was thirty years of age and leaves a wife and three children.

FAULKNER, THE BIGAMIST, CAGED

Samuel Faulkner, charged by John Snyder with adultery with complainant's daughter, has been committed by Deputy Mayor Butler to jail in default of $1,000. According to Miss Snyder's testimony, Faulkner, who sells a patent hemmer for a sewing machine, induced her to come with him from her home at Irwin's Station, to Allegheny and in an office or room on Federal street, introduced her to a man who represented himself to be a Methodist minister, and by whom they were married. An uncle of the girl after hearing that the pair were married, instituted inquiries which resulted in the discovery that Faulkner had another wife living. The latter, however, denies stoutly that he was married until confronted by his wife, when he denied being married to No. 2. The injured parties on both sides are highly respectable people, and intend to prosecute Faulkner to the full extent of the law. In the meantime efforts will be made to discover the Rev. gentleman who appears to have been a party to the outrage. A charge of bigamy has been made against Faulkner, on which he will have a hearing next Saturday. Faulkner is twenty-six years old and has three children by his first wife, who was present at the hearing.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

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Its effects are as wonderful and satisfactory as ever.

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It removes all eruptions, itching and dandruff, and the scalp by its use becomes white and clean.

By its tonic properties it restores the capillary glands to their normal vigor, preventing baldness, and making the hair grow thick and strong.

As a dressing, nothing has been found so effectual or desirable.

Dr. A. A. Hays, State Assayer of Massachusetts, says of it: "I consider it the best preparation for its intended purpose."

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FOR THE WHISKERS.

This elegant preparation may be relied on to change the color of the beard from gray or any other undesirable shade, to brown or black, at discretion. It is easily applied, being in one preparation, and quickly and effectually produces a permanent color which will neither wash nor rub off.

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This is an interesting work of two hundred and sixty pages, with numerous engravings, and contains valuable information for those who are married or contemplate marriage. It is a book that ought to be under lock and key, and not laid carelessly about the house.

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of early indiscretion, causing nervous debility, premature decay, &c., having tried in vain every advertised remedy, has discovered a simple means of self-cure, which he will send free to his fellow sufferers. Address, J. H. REEVES, 78 Nassau street, New York. se27-1y*

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9 ACRES on Fifth avenue extension, with buildings; price $100,000. This property has nearly 300 feet on the avenue, and the same on both sides of Forbes street.

70 ACRES adjoining Allegheny City, on Spring Garden avenue; price only $1,100 per acre. This is a good investment. Terms easy.

20 ACRES, 20 ACRES, 10 ACRES and 6 ACRES on the Fan Handle Railway, near Ingram and Crafton stations; prices from $900 to $1,500 per acre.

3 FINE RESIDENCES on Stockton avenue, Allegheny City; lots 60x260 feet; prices $30,000 to $40,000.

2 FINE HOUSES at Oakland, with large grounds; $30,000 each.

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Valuable Farm for Sale.

We offer for sale the Farm of the late John Coulter deceased, in Marshall Township, Allegheny county, Pa., bounded on the east by the Harmony Plank Road and Anton Gangler, on the south by Casper Forthe, and on the north by Bradford's heirs, containing about 180 acres, 140 of which are cleared, and most of it in grass, balance in timber, the whole under fence. Several never-failing springs of water on said farm.

This farm is located on the forks of the Sewickly, Rochester, Beaver, Brighton, Harmony, Franklin and Pittsburgh Roads. Distant from Pittsburgh 15 miles; from Sewickly, Rochester and Beaver about 10 miles each, and from Harmony 11 miles. The improvements are a large two-story frame dwelling house, with an L to it, a frame store house, a two-story frame tenant house, a large bank barn, spring house, corn crib, coal house, and other farm buildings; two good bearing orchards on it. Would divide very well in three or four small farms, throwing good springs of water in each farm, also timber on each place. If the above property is not sold before the fifth day of February, 1874, it will be offered at public outcry on said farm, at one o'clock on that day. For further information apply to JOHN H. FOWLER, Esq., near said place, or to JOS. COULTER, Unionville, Butler Co., Pa. JOS. COULTER,

Oct. 22, 1873. JOHN H. FOWLER.

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ORPHANS' COURT SALE.

By virtue of an order of the Orphans' Court of Allegheny county, the undersigned will expose to public sale, on the premises, in Marshall township, Allegheny county, Pa., on TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1874, at two o'clock P. M., all that TRACT OF LAND, situate in said township and county, bounded and described as follows, to wit: East by lands of Arthur Herron and E. Hillman. South by lands of David and Henry Robinson. West by lands of Matthew Ryan and Geo. B Grimmer, and North by the Butler county line containing ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FOUR (174) ACRES, more or less, on which are erected a Dwelling House, Barn, Grain House and Blacksmith Shop. About seventy-five acres are under cultivation. Terms made known at time of sale.

JOHN H. FOWLER,
PHILLIP SWINDERMAN,
Administrators of Lorenz Hess, dec'd.
A. M. BROWN,
Attorney, 114 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh.

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Out. ONE package of Prof. Hall's Magic Compound will force the beard to grow thick and heavy on the smoothest face (without injury) in 21 days, or money refunded. 25 cents a package, postpaid, or 3 for 50 cents. Or one application of my "HAIR CURLER" will curl the hair of either sex beautifully. Satisfaction guaranteed.

NEW YORK.

THE TRIAL OF EX-MAYOR HALL.

NEW YORK, December 24.—The counsel for the defense in the trial of ex-Mayor Hall, declined to-day to put in any evidence, and commenced to sum up, saying that they would ask the Court to direct the jury to acquit the defendant. Mr. Stoughton proceeded to sum up at some length.

At the conclusion of his argument, Mr. Tremaine commenced for the prosecution, and in the course of his argument called the attention of the jury to the fact that the defendant himself, when the District Attorney procured the conviction of Judge Hogart for an act similar to that for which he is now on trial, and then argued that the word "corruptly" was more a surplusage than the word "wilfully" meant "intentionally," and with whatever his good faith, if he intended to do the forbidden act, it was doing it wilfully. In that portion the Court sustained him.

Mr. Tremaine spoke for three hours, and concluded by saying if the offence was a mere technical one, the jury should so find and trust the court to administer a mere technical penalty. He did not ask the jury to find that any money went into the defendant's pocket, and he rejoiced to say there was no proof whatever that it did. If they found a general verdict of guilty, the defendant could only be punished for the offence, or they could find him guilty in all or any of the counts or vouchers.

THE CHARGE.

Judge Daniels commenced to charge the jury at half-past four o'clock. He said the defendant was substantially charged with wilful neglect of duty, and being a lawyer and a man of culture and ability would be held to a strict performance of the duty imposed upon him by law. If a public officer wilfully neglects to perform the duty imposed upon him by law, he is guilty of a misdemeanor The duty imposed upon the Board of Audit, was of a personal and judicial character, which required investigation. They had no right to delegate that duty to any one else. It was beyond doubt a personal duty required of members of the Board. Did the defendant decline to perform that duty? If he did designedly and purposely, he committed misdemeanor, for it is not necessary there should be any design to defraud; it is enough, if a party designs to perform the act which creates crime.

An inspection of the many bills presented would have revealed frauds of a gross character, the judge instancing one bill in which was omitted the creditor's name. The public had a right to expect examination of all these bills. He instructed the jury that the defence made of duties being too arduous would not stand as an excuse; for no officer can undertake the duty and wilfully neglect it. If the jury were satisfied that the defendant committed the offence, no matter how painful it might be to the defendant's friends, it was their duty to pronounce him guilty, and unless they had an abiding conviction of his guilt, they must find him not guilty.

He instructed them to confine themselves to the indictment charging the defendant with wilfully and intentionally omitting to perform the duties prescribed by law. Judge Daniels also instructed the jury that there is no evidence of conspiracy between Hall and his assistants, and nothing connected him with the fraudulent bills.

The jury retired at six o'clock, and at half-past o'clock returned and were instructed that answer to inquiries from the foreman as to the simple act of neglect of duty, if wilful, would warrant a verdict of guilty, and that the jury were themselves judges whether the act was or was not wilful. Judge told them if they did not find a verdict within an hour or so they would be locked up for the night. The jury retired at 10 p.m.

VERDICT OF NOT GUILTY RENDERED.

At half past ten o'clock the jury entered the court room and in answer to the usual inquiry of the jury replied they had found a verdict of not guilty and at this announcement the audience broke into a tumult of applause which the court did not object to and after a lapse of about fifteen minutes the court was adjourned until Monday morning.

DISAPPEARANCE OF MR. CHISHOLM.

The following facts have been ascertained in relation to the disappearance of Mr. Chisholm, of Chicago. On the afternoon of the 18th inst., a gentleman arrived at the Stevens House, registered as T. S. Chish of Chicago, and was assigned to room 76. He did not turn up that night, and no alarm was felt. The next day he was still absent, and in the afternoon his room was entered, and his baggage searched, and a card of Plankerton, Arnair & Co., merchants, 129 Broad street, was found among his effects. The firm was communicated with, and a clerk named Webster called at the hotel and found the gentleman's bill. Detectives were at once set in motion, and a most active search has been kept up in a quiet way ever since, but without gaining the slightest clue to the gentleman's whereabouts. Mr. Chisholm's brother arrived in town last night, and had an interview with the detectives.

MISCELLANEOUS DISPATCHES.

Edson Bradley, of the firm of Edson Bradley & Co., Broadway, recently in trouble, has disappeared from the view of his friends since Sunday. He had with him at the time of his departure a considerable amount of money.

The suspension of Deland & Burrell, wholesale dealers, on Pearl street, was announced yesterday. It was also announced that the millinery goods house of Wm. H. Carpenter had suspended; the amount involved is believed to be about $300,000.

The Governing Committee of the Stock Exchange has decided to close the Exchange from one o'clock to-day till Monday morning next. A similar arrangement will take place next week.

Key West dispatch says the steamer Wyoming left for Aspinwall last night to bring to the former port the captured steamer General Sherman.

A story is told to-day that Harry Genet, the ring fugitive, is on his way to Rio Janeiro on board a yacht provisioned and fitted for a long voyage. Ex-Senator Hugh Taylor, of Jersey city, is said to be also on board.

Fisk & Hatch have resumed.

The Cuban agents in this city, state that orders have been received that no more rifles are needed by the Cuban forces, as they have captured more than sufficient to arm all they can put in the field. The Virginius prisoners are expected on Friday; the Cuban residents are making every effort to supply their wants immediately.

IMPORTANT DECISION.

The bank of British North America, the bank of Montreal and Canadian Bank of Commerce having declined to pay the State tax, Judge Barrett to-day rendered a decision that they having all the protection of the laws of the State, are liable to taxation; and directs the tax commissioners to collect.

BALTIMORE.

DEATH OF A MILLIONAIRE—MUNIFICENT BEQUEST.

BALTIMORE, December 24.—Johns Hopkins, a reputed wealthiest citizen of Baltimore, died this morning, aged seventy-three years. In March last, Mr. Hopkins gave property valued at four million dollars, to found a free hospital for the indigent sick, connected with which is a training school for nurses. He also made ample provision for a home for colored orphans, and set apart fifteen thousand shares Baltimore and Ohio Railroad stock valued at two millions, to found a university on his Clifton estate. Mr. Hopkins was unmarried.

RAILWAY STRIKE.

ENGINEERS AND FIREMEN DESERT THEIR TRAINS.

CINCINNATI, December 26.—A strike of the engineers and firemen on the Pan Handle road commenced here at noon to-day. The strike is against the reduction of ten per cent. in the wages of these employees from the first of the present month, of which the agents of the company say previous notice was given. Since noon two passenger trains and all the freight trains on the Pan Handle were unable to leave the city. The report is that all the branches of the Pan Handle and Pennsylvania Central are affected simultaneously by the strike.

Reports concerning it conflict in respect to the time and manner of the strike. One story is that the strikers were to leave the train wherever it might be at twelve o'clock to-day, and it is said this was done on the down train at Xenia, and that the conductor and brakeman took the locomotive and brought the train to the city. Another story is that all the strikers on the trains before twelve o'clock noon should take them to their destination before leaving them.

CAUSE OF THE STRIKE.

COLUMBUS, December 26.—The locomotive engineers and firemen on the leased lines of the Panhandle road, west of Pittsburgh, struck to-day at noon in resistance of a reduction of ten per cent. on salaries. The strike resulted in a general stoppage of trains, none leaving this point since noon.

A reporter interviewed a delegation of engineers to-night and was assured that all they want is a restoration of the salaries paid previous to December 1st; they also declare that they will not interfere with any one who wishes to run their engines.

A train was run in from Dennison to-night by John Simmons, a Master of Transportation. Just as the engine pulled into the depot here Simmons was struck on the head with a stone thrown by some unknown party, but was not much injured. The engineers say they are positive this was not done by any of their men.

The engineers further say this strike is made only after two respectful protests against the reduction had been sent to headquarters without accomplishing the object sought. The yard here is full of freight and passenger trains, and much inconvenience to the travelling public must result unless the trouble is speedily adjusted. D. W. Caldwell, superintendent of lines west of this point, states that on December the 1st a reduction of ten per cent. was made on salaries of all officers and attaches of these lines; that the engineers and firemen are the only parties who have not acceded to this arrangement. The reduction was made by reason of the financial condition of the country and desire to to keep all their money employed and pay them regularly.

THE PROSPECT.

CINCINNATI, December 26.—The Panhandle officers are doing all they can to keep trains running. Railroad shops in the eastern part of the city are stopped to allow the mechanics to take the place of the striking engineers. Out of seven passenger trains to leave the city this afternoon, four went and three had to remain here. Nothing better is anticipated for to-morrow. Up to midnight no freight has left since noon. The officers here had no intelligence of the strike until noon, the hour appointed for it to begin. They had a rumor of a contemplated, strike which came last night, but gave no indications as to the time when it would begin, and it was not credited. Dispatches to the Gazette from Richmond, Ind., and various other points, report the strike simultaneous on all branches of the Panhandle road.

EXTENT OF THE STRIKE.

CHICAGO, December 26.—The engineers and firemen on the Illinois Central, the Great Eastern, the Northwestern and the Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne roads struck at noon to-day and no trains have gone out over these lines to-night. The strike is on account of a recent reduction of wages. It is thought a sufficient number of engineers will be secured without much trouble to put the usual trains on all roads perhaps tomorrow.

ATTEMPT TO THROW A TRAIN OFF THE TRACK.

CINCINNATI, December 26.—Superintendent Ellison, who went out on the nine forty-five Panhandle train east, reports an attempt to throw it off the track at Pendleton, in the western part of the city, about three miles from the depot. He says the obstruction was made by winding something around the rail in two places close together. At the first obstruction the locomotive jumped the track and striking the second obstruction took the track again and ran on without injury. The precise character of the obstruction has not been ascertained.

MISUNDERSTANDING AMONG THE STRIKERS.

CLEVELAND, December 26.—The locomotive engineers on the Cleveland & Pittsburgh Railroad struck to-day at noon. The passenger trains were somewhat delayed, but were all run through. Several freights were abandoned. It is reported that there is a misunderstanding among the engineers, and that the strike is without the authority of the brotherhood; also that only twenty-five or thirty engineers went out and these have asked to be reinstated. With the exception of freights abandoned, trains are running as usual. No trouble is reported on other roads centering here.

NO STRIKE ON THE FORT WAYNE ROAD.

CHICAGO, December 26.—The train dispatchers at the offices of the Illinois Central, Northwestern and Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne Railroad, in this city, deny the report that there is any strike of the engineers and firemen on these roads, and assert that there is no cause for any strike as their wages have not been reduced. The engineers of the Great Eastern struck, as before stated.

ALL FREIGHT TRAINS SUSPENDED.

LOUISVILLE, December 26.—The striking engineers and brakemen did not notify the officials of the Jeffersonville, Madison and Indianapolis railroad of their intended action till the trains were ready to start this evening. After much trouble the three o'clock train was got out under charge of the master mechanic of the road. The strike will cause a suspension of all freight trains and night passenger.

Arrangements have been made to run out daily two passenger trains in charge of engineers not belonging to the union. Horace Scott, General Superintendent, thinks by Monday he will be able to resume operation of the freight trains. Several striking men told a reporter of the Courier-Journal to-day that members of the union on the J. M. & I. R. R., sent a deputation to Pittsburgh several days since, which met other deputations, who together waited on Mr. McCullough, General Superintendent of the Pennsylvania Company, and remonstrated against the reduction. He referred them back to officials of this division. It is understood that members of the union on the Jeff. road waited on a telegram from headquarters at Pittsburgh before commencing the strike. The telegram was received this morning and the strike commenced at noon. All trains starting out before noon were brought safely to their destination. No violence is reported.

STRIKE OF RAILWAY ENGINEERS.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., December 26.—The engineers on the Pittsburg, Columbus and St. Louis, Indianapolis and Vincennes, and Jeffersonville, Madison and Indianapolis railroads struck at 12 o'clock. All trains leaving their starting point before twelve o'clock will run through. On the Indianapolis and Vincennes road, the regular passenger train went out on card time, and the night passenger trains on both the Pittsburgh, Columbus and St. Louis and Jeffersonville, Madison and Indianapolis will go out as usual in charge of engineers not members of the brotherhood. There has been no disturbance as yet, and it is not anticipated the strike will extend to other roads. No trains have arrived on the Pittsburgh, Columbus and St. Louis since twelve o'clock. The regular train leaving Louisville at two p. m. on the Jeffersonville, Madison and Indianapolis road came in a few minutes late.

RESUMPTION OF COTTON AND WOOLEN MILLS.

PHILADELPHIA, December 26.—Most of the cotton and woolen factories are in full operation at reduced wages. Carpet manufacturers with very few exceptions are all closed owing principally to a difference between the weavers and manufacturers, caused by a reduction in weaving of two cents per yard. Manufacturers as a general thing say prices of carpet have been reduced so much, and sales are so slow they are not very anxious to resume operations, even though weavers should agree to work at the proposed reduction.

CLEVELAND, O., December 28.—The following communication was furnished the Associated Press this evening:

The strike now in operation on the leased lines of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company is in direct violation of the rules of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. My advice to every member of the Brotherhood that has quit work on account of the strike is to go to work at once and to use every influence in their power to induce all persons engaged in the strike to resume work and desist from any interference with the company's property or men. In my opinion no dishonor will be attached to any who accepts a situation from the Pennsylvania Railroad Company during their present difficulties.

[Signed] CHARLES WILSON,
Grand Chief Engineer.

MACHENISTS AND BLACKSMITHS DIRECTED NOT TO INTERFERE WITH THE ENGINEERS.

John Fehrenbatch, President of the Machenists and Blacksmith's International Union has issued orders instructing the members of that Union at Chicago, Ills.; Cincinnati, Ohio; Columbus, Ohio; Pittsburgh, Pa.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Logansport, Ind.; Jeffersonville, Ind.; Uhrichville, Ohio, to refrain from interfering with locomotive engineers in their strike.

REWARD OFFERED.

CLEVELAND, O., December 28.—Superintendent Ellison has offered five hundred dollars reward for the arrest and conviction of the man who misplaced the switch at Columbia, causing the train to run off the track last night.

ENGINEERS REGRETTING THE STRIKE.

Superintendent Ellison is in receipt of dispatches from Superintendents of the Pan Handle, and Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central divisions, that the out look is better to-day than any time previous since the strike. The best engineers to-day, here, have expressed regret for having struck, but have not asked to be taken back.

The leading engineer at Morrow said today he would come to Cincinnati to-morrow and try to induce his fellow engineers to recant, and ask to be taken back on the Company's terms.

THE PROSPECT.

Neither of the two passenger trains due out started from here to-day. No freights will run to-morrow, but by Wednesday they are expected to move regularly. All the passenger trains, except two accommodations will move to-morrow. After Tuesday all the trains, unless prevented by unforseen developments.

NARROW ESCAPE OF A TRAIN.

A Gazette special from Richmond, Ind., says: At Walton, a watchman who discovered a misplaced switch restored it by great effort, barely in time to save a passengers' train full of people which thuddered by at twenty-five miles per hour.

ANOTHER STRIKE IMMINENT.

A Fort Wayne special to the Gazette says: The strike of the engineers on the Toledo, Wabash and Western Railroad is imminent against fifteen per cent. reduction of wages.

TRAIN CONTAINING TROOPS DITCHED.

The train with troops which left Indianapolis yesterday afternoon for Logansport, was ditched at Walbum, five miles east of Logansport, on the Pan Handle road, caused by the switch being tampered with. The soldiers marched into Logansport, arriving there at four o'clock this morning.

AID OFFERED STRIKING ENGINEERS.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, December 28.—The striking engineers held a meeting this morning for religious exercises. The meeting was attended by two hundred persons. A general interchange of sentiment was had on the situation.

A letter read from engineers of other roads offering to donate half their salaries to sustain the strike if necessary. The engineers resolved to stand firm in their demands.

A NON-UNION ENGINEER SHOT.

INDIANAPOLIS, December 27.—A train on the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis railroad left the Union depot this evening, at half-past six o'clock, in charge of Harry Vance, an engineer not a member of the union, but before the train had reached the outskirts of the city a shot was fired, which took effect in Vance's arm, inflicting a slight flesh wound. The shot was fired by a striking engineer, whose name could not be learned. Several policemen were on board the engine at the time, and the man was arrested.

NO ARRIVALS OR DEPARTURES.

No trains have gone east on the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis railroad to-day, and none have arrived up to six o'clock. There has been one train each way on the Louisville road to-day. The sheriff of Cass county telegraphed from Logansport for assistance to quell a disturbance there, and two companies, numbering one hundred and fifty men, were sent out by the Indianapolis, Peru and Chicago road, in command of General Dan Macauley. They will reach Logansport to-night. A train from Chicago for Richmond went over the road to-day, but did not stop at Logansport.

TRAIN THROWN FROM THE TRACK.

The train which left here on the P., C. and St. Louis R. R., last night was thrown from the track outside of the city by an open switch, and was abandoned. The regular Louisville train last night went through but no train has arrived from Louisville since eight o'clock P. M. The train due to leave here for Louisville at ten o'clock, left the depot about one hour later The Superintendent of the Vincennes railroad, reports that he will have five out of six regular trains through today on the Columbas divisions of the P. C. & St. L. R. R. No trains have gone through or arrived since twelve o'clock, yesterday. The train due here at six o'clock last evening, is reported to be at Bradford Junction, Ohio. There is a large crowd about the Union depot, and the P. C. & W. L. yards, but no riotous demonstrations have been made as yet. A train is now ready to start for Columbus, and will probably get off to-day. A serious disturbance is reported at Logansport this morning, but no particulars have been received.

THE CONSTITUTION.

THE POWER OF THE PEOPLE, THROUGH A CONVENTION GREATER THAN THE LEGISLATURE, AND SUBJECT ONLY TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

LARGE ATTENDANCE OF DELEGATES AT HARRISBURG---THE SUPREME COURT DECISION---A DESERVED REBUKE HANDSOMELY ADMINISTERED ---WILL THE FOUR "PARTISANS" AND ONE "PERVERT" RESIGN---THE "FORTUNATE VICTIM'S" MINORITY REPORT---THE OPINION OF LEADING LAWYERS ON AGNEW'S OPINION--- WHEN IT WAS WRITTEN---CANVASS OF THE VOTE---THE BURNING OF THE DEBATES---SESSIONS OF THE LEGISLATURE---REPORTS OF COMMITTEES---CLOSING SCENES---ADJOURNED SINE DIE.

Correspondence of The Post,]

HARRISBURG, Dec. 27, 1873.

The Executive Committee of the Constitutional Convention had no reason to expect so large an attendance of delegates as put in an appearance here last night and this morning. The weather was inclement, trains were delayed, and the overwhelming majority for the Constitution, indicated that the closing proceedings would be confined to mere matters of routine. Yet there were nearly one hundred delegates here (98) and some eight or ten were delayed on the way, while the remainder accounted for their absence by their own sickness, or that of their families—all save the three unfortunates who refused to sign and took the stump against the new Constitution. They propose to leave the corrupt atmosphere of Pennsylvania on the first of January, and search for political purity in South Carolina or Louisana.

THE SUPREME COURT DECISION.

The feeling in regard to the Supreme Court, because of its inconsistent and anti-Republican decision in the Philadelphia election case, manifested itself with great emphasis as soon as the assembling delegates had exchanged mutual congratulations on the glorious result of the late election. There was a great deal of enthusiasm over the majorities, as Allegheny and Berks and Philadelphia and Schuylkill, and other counties recited the incidents of the canvass, but this was followed by unanimous expressions against the actions of the Court in its unwarrantable usurpation of the authority of the people. The Republican delegates were even more decided in their expressions than the Democrats, and mainly because of the insolent and presumptuous—not to say false—dispatch of Mercur to the Philadelphia Ring meeting. He caught it right and left, and it is a fortunate thing for him he don't come before his own party again, let alone the people, for the next twelve or fourteen years.

A PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Convention last night, presided over by Mr. Buckalew, it was deemed best for prudential reasons and to expedite business to call an informal conference of the delegates this morning a couple of hours before the Convention was to meet. The specific objects in view were to take down some of the extreme expressions proposed towards the Supreme Court by the more radical delegates—mainly Republicans—and prevent their appearing on the records of the Convention—and secondly to effect an organization of the delegates for future meetings of a social character. The caucus after some debate resolved to exclude outsiders. It was presided over by Hon. George V. Lawrence, of Washington county. The Supreme Court question was referred, after debate to a committee, with Mr. Armstrong at its head. The result of their deliberations will appear below.

"THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION ASSOCIATION."

Mr. Lamberton, of Dauphin, after a brief recess, submitted to the informal meeting (now in open session) a draft of the Constitution of the "Constitutional Convention Association of Pennsylvania." It was in the usual form as to officers, and provided for annual meetings on the third Tuesday of December, the anniversary of the vote on the Constitution. Delegates and officers of the Convention and that of '38 were declared eligible for membership. To promote the cause of pure Government, Constitutional reform, and an annual social reunion—at whatever place might be determined by the Executive Committee—were declared the objects of the Association. The following officers were chosen for the first year:

President—John H. Walker, of Erie.

Vice Presidents—Wm. H. Armstrong, of Lycoming county, and Charles R. Buckalew, of Columbia county.

Secretary—R. A. Lamberton, of Dauphin county.

Treasurer—M. Hall Stanton, Philadelphia.

Executive Committee—The President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Messrs. John Gibson, of York; John Price Wetherill and George W. Woodward, of Philadelphia; H. G. Smith, of Lancaster, and A. G. Curtin, of Bellefonte.

The perfecting of this organization concluded the business of the caucus:

MEETING OF THE CONVENTION.

At a quarter after twelve, the President, Hon. John H. Walker, took the chair, and called the Convention to order. He was greeted as he ascended the rostrum with loud applause. A roll call showed ninety-seven delegates present, and excuses on account of sickness were made for twelve or fifteen others.

Rev. Mr. Curry, of Blair county, offered a prayer, in which he referred to the decisive indorsement of the work of the Convention as an instance of God's working in the minds of men to produce great results for good in civil government. He prayed for the relatives and friends of the deceased delegate, (Mr. Craig,) for the officers of the State government and for the present wisdom and future prosperity and godliness to the delegates. The invocation was eminently satisfactory to the assembled constitutional wisdom.

THE POWERS OF THE CONVENTION.

Mr. Armstrong, of Lycoming, offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of thirteen be appointed by the President to submit resolutions declaring the sense of the Convention as to the extent of its powers.

On a call of the roll the yeas were 66 and the nays 31.

The president appointed the following as the committee: Messrs. Armstrong, Buckalew, Biddle, Newlin, Howarl, Carter, Harry White, Broomall, Bigler, Sharpe, Littleton, Alricks and Codran.

The conclusion of this committee determined by the informal conference, although submitted an hour or two later, may as well appear here. There were two reports—a majority report signed by eleven of the committee, and a minority report (of course,) signed by Harry White (of course). We remember the story of the eleven stubborn jurors—

Mr. Armstrong reported as follows:

The committee appointed to submit resolutions declaring the sense of the convention as to the extent of its powers, report that they have given their most earnest consideration to the subject committed to them, involving as it does the powers of the people to exercise their indefeasible right to alter their form of government. A proceeding to which the convention was not a party, has in its effect and result brought into controversy some of the fundamental principles of constitutional government. The opinion that has been pronounced in this proceeding contains doctrines which in our judgment ought not to be left unchallenged. We believe them to be subversive of some of the absolute rights of the people. We therefore submit for the action of this convention the following resolutions:

Resolved 1st, That this Convention was called by authority of the people as determined by their vote, under the act of 1871, declaring that a Convention should be called to amend the Constitution of this Commonwealth, and that that vote was a mandate to the Legislature, which that body was not at liberty to disobey or modify.

Resolved 2d, That the Constitution of the State is the only recognized form of its government, and the people having expressly reserved to themselves the right to alter, reform or abolish their government in such manner as they think proper, and having in distinct terms *excepted* this right out of the general powers of government, and declared that such right shall forever remain inviolable, this Convention deems it its duty to declare that it is not in the power of any department of an existing government to limit or control the powers of a Convention, called by the people to reform their Constitution, and that the Convention, subject to the Constitution of the United States, is answerable only to the people from whom it derived its powers.

Mr. Harry White's report was in effect that the proposed action was unnecessary, although he has hitherto been one of the loudest in demanding it. His report was shelved by somewhere about 96 to 1—but possibly this is an exaggeration.

The resolutions of the majority of the committee were adopted, after the briefest imaginable debate. The subject had been well canvassed in the minds of all the delegates. The first resolution went through—ayes 77, nays 7, and the second by 63 ayes to 13 nays.

This don't reverse the decision of course, but it is a pleasant little testimonial from the people of the Commonwealth to Messrs. Agnew, Sharswood, Mercur, Williams and Gordon.

The question is will they resign—at least the four Republicans, in accordance with the declarations of their Williamsport convention, that the Supreme Court should be in accord with the people on all per questions.

The current gossip here, is that the Agnew opinion was prepared in its essential parts before the case was argued. Critical lawyers say this is evident from the composition of the document.

CANVASS OF THE VOTE OF THE THIRD TUESDAY OF DECEMBER.

Mr. J. N. Purviance moved that the election returns from the various counties of the State be opened and read. Agreed to.

Messrs. Harvey and Hay were appointed tellers by the President.

Much time was consumed in reading the returns and many members retired for their dinners and to enjoy a smoke while the clerks read the returns. Others employed the time signing a duplicated copy of the Constitution for the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. The votes of some counties were received with great cheering, as they were read by the clerks.

The tellers having concluded their count the President announced the official vote as follows:

Whole number of votes	362,758
For the new Constitution	253,560
Against the new Constitution	109,198
Majority for the Constitution	144,362

The returns were ordered to be deposited with the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Mr. J. N. Purviance then offered a preamble and resolution, reciting that as the Constitution had been adopted by the people; therefore,

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to announce the result by proclamation; and that the returns of the election, as made to the Convention, be certified to by the President and Chief Clerk, and that they be deposited in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

THE PRINTING QUESTION.

Then followed a great deal of wrangling on the printing question, as to whether the State was liable for the loss of the books destroyed by the fire in the State printer's office.

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention became hungry all at once, and resolved on their dinners. So an adjournment was ordered from four to six. At the evening session, after a dozen resolutions had been offered and debated, and voted down, the question of the State or Mr. Singerly's responsibility for the burned volumes of debates was solved by the adoption of this resolution, reported by the Executive Committee:

Resolved, That Benjamin Singerly reproduce the volumes of debates and journals destroyed by fire on the terms of his contract with the State, and his accounts for the same be referred to the Auditor General and State Treasurer for settlement.

WHEN BIENNIAL SESSIONS COMMENCE.

Mr. Buckalew, in order that the weigh of the Convention's judgment might be given to what most people believed was the true intent and meaning of the Constitution, and which was yet controverted by captious persons, moved a resolution that, as the judgment of the Convention, the biennial sessions of the Legislature shall commence with the session of 1875, the first are elected under the new Constitution. He supported this in some well chosen remarks, for he appreciated the fact it was a very delicate thing for the Convention to attempt to construe its own work after the people have accepted it as their own. The resolution was adopted.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Armstrong, from the Executive Committee, and Mr. Hay, from the Committee on Accounts, made reports, the former very elaborate, going into a history of the Philadelphia election case, and the general canvass made by the committee on behalf of the Constitution. Both reports were adopted, and the thanks of the Convention tendered by a resolution to the Executive Committee, and to Messrs. Armstrong, Biddle, and Buckalew, who argued in behalf of the people the injunction case before the Supreme Court.

DEATH OF DAVID CRAIG.

Mr. Beebe announced the death of Hon. David Craig of New Castle, a delegate, during the recess. Speeches were made by Messrs. Beebe, Lawrence, Bowman, Mantor, Wright of Luzerne, and Biddle. Those of the two latter were very touching and eloquent.

CLOSING SCENES.

It was now nine o'clock, and the Convention had got through its work. Nothing remained but the final adjournment *sine die*. Mr. Purviance moved and carried a resolution of thanks to President Walker, and it was responded to in sentences of beauty, force and eloquence. There was a rap on the desk, the Convention was declared adjourned *sine die*, and in a few minutes after prodigeous handshaking and hearty good bys, the hall was dark and deserted, save by the evil spirits of dead lobbyists whose hell it is to flit through the scenes of their mundane joys and rascalities—even they will be exorcised with the New Year.

The midnight and morning trains carried off returning delegates, rejoicing over their last exercise of the sacred rights, privileges and immunities of railroad adheads.

TOM PINCH.

A PLEA FOR CARELESSNESS.

WHAT THE WATER COMMISSIONERS HAVE TO SAY FOR THEMSELVES—THEIR DUTIES TWOFOLD—TO PROVIDE THE FUNDS AND TO EXPEND THEM—THE FIRST "SIMPLE ENOUGH" AND MERELY ROUTINE, ACCORDING TO THE LATE HONORABLE WATER COMMISSIONERS, THEREFORE THE JEOPARDY IN WHICH THE CITY FUNDS WERE PLACED—THE SECOND, THE EXPENDITURE OF THESE FUNDS.

Below we give the plea of the Water Commissioners for the sins of commission and omission charged against them, as read in the Joint Session of City Councils Wednsday by Hill Burgwin, Esq. In printing it, free of charge, we may be allowed to remark that their statement of the two-fold duties of the Water Commission is very suggestive. If their first duty was to provide the necessary funds for accomplishing the work entrusted to them, and their second to expend economically the funds thus raised, it does not follow that their whole attention should be directed to their *second* duty. The *first* duty of anybody, as a universal rule requires, even compels, more attention than a *second* duty. Much more so, when applied to a sworn servant of the people. It is a difficult matter, and requires the shrewdest financiering to raise or provide funds, whether in politics or in business, or both; but it is the easiest matter in the world to expend it carefully, judiciously and economically. In other words, according to the plea of the late Water Commissioners, it was only necessary to have a book filled with printed water bonds in blank, and then this book could be entrusted to a *subordinate (NOT AN) officer*, chosen with the knowledge (?) and presumably (! ! !) with the approval of Councils, and one, too, whom the Water Commissioners believed to be as honest as themselves. Their oath of office, their duty, according to their plea, went no farther in respect to raising funds. They only considered themselves bound to see that the bonds raised (!) by the subordinate were properly expended. But we let the Water Commissioners speak for themselves. Here is their statement in full to Councils:

To the Select and Common Councils of the city of Pittsburgh:

The members of the Board of Water Commission, in presenting to you their resignations, desire to say a few words both explanatory of their reasons for doing so, and also in reply to the Report of the Finance Committee, in which such grave charges have been made to you against us. In doing this, we wish it to be distinctly understood that there are certain classes of persons (that there are any such in these Councils we do not say, but leave you and an intelligent public to judge) to whom we do not address ourselves. There are those who have not the nerve to stem a popular current, but rounded on to public outcry created and incited by a venal press are ever ready to prejudge and condemn, regardless of truth or justice. There are others, who, having some selfish end to accomplish, some little political capital to make, esteem such occasions as these a most happy opportunity to ventilate and display to the gaze of an excited public, a little cheap honesty and frothy zeal. What care they for reputation, far, perchance, above their own, can they only by trampling it in the dust, make a step in advance to attain their own petty end? The only excuse for their trifling with the characters of honest men, would seem to be that their own consciousness affords them no criterion, by which to estimate its value To all such persons, we have no word to say; by such, our cause was decided unheard and ourselves condemned; before the voice which made the charge had died upon the ear. But there are others, we rejoice to believe, fair minded, honorable men, who whether well or ill affected to us personally, are yet ready and willing to hear and weigh the facts, and all the attending circumstances of the case, and then, regardless of popular clamor or outside pressure, render a fair unbiased judgment, measuring out the due amount of praise and censure. To such as these, we appeal; by such as these, are we willing to be judged? The Board of Water Commissioners were organized and entered upon their duties about two years ago. Some of us at least can say that we were placed in our responsible positions, at no request or desire upon our part, but with avowed reluctance and self distrust, and as all of us do most solemnly assert, with no selfish ends to accomplish, no motive but to serve the public good. It was no office of established routine with our work marked out, and a regular organization in full operation. Everything was new and untried—we had no land marks to guide us, or precedents to control; we had a large and most important work to execute, involving the decisions of many weighty and difficult questions, some of these embarrassing from their very magnitude alone.

Our official duties were two-fold.

1st. *To provide the necessary funds for accomplishing the work entrusted to us, and, 2d, the careful, judicious and economical expenditure of these funds. The first was simple enough.* It required merely the performance of a few routine duties, by a subordinate officer, chosen with your knowledge, and we presume your approval, and whom we believed to be as honest as ourselves.

The bonds we were to sell, could not be sold below par. We selected our agents in Philadelphia, reliable and responsible beyond question, and they undertook their sale, agreeing to send us the proceeds in the shape of drafts to the order of our President, upon which and not before, the bonds sold were to be sent to them. No danger then of the bonds miscarrying; and when the proceeds were placed in the City Treasury, that branch of our duty was at an end. But unfortunately, these drafts, when coming to the President's hands, were endorsed by him in blank, and without suspicion or distrust, were given to the Secretary, a sworn officer, and under bond, to be turned into the City Treasury. He in betrayal of this trust, whatever may have been his motive, or his purpose, deposited a large amount of the funds elsewhere; and so the whole mischief was produced. Under our system, faulty it may have been, we carried on our operations successfully the first year, disposing of $1,000,000 in bonds, and accounting to Councils for every dollar, at its close. But the other branch of our duty, the expenditure of the funds we had in charge, did demand of us, and, we fearlessly assert, did receive no small or easily estimated amount of care, time and anxious thought. We had, as state before, to organize and systematize this work in all its many and important branches. First, we had to deal with land owners to decide the amount of land we should acquire at different localities; the prices we would be justified in paying, the propriety of condemnation or amicable settlement. This, with eight or nine different owners to deal with, with their relatives, friends and attorneys in and out of Councils, all eager to get the utmost dollar from the city, and only ours lyes to guard the City Treasury, was a labor and responsibility of no small magnitude, involving, as it did, the necessary expenditure of several hundred thousand dollars. Then came our contracts for constructing the reservoirs, costing also hundreds of thousands of dollars. The changes of plans and specifications which, under the advice of our Chief Engineer, a wise economy might forbid or might recommend, require much time and thought. But above all the immense pumping engines required to fill the reservoirs have been a source of great anxiety, and have received no little of our attention. Whether we should adopt the high or low pressure, or the condensing engine; whether we should have two pumping works, and how many engines on each of the main reservoirs; what type of engines, combined in the greatest degree the three principles of strength, simplicity and economy, with the innumerable minor questions involved therein, and amid the discordant opinions of engineers having the highest reputation in the land—all these were points which, without ourselves being practical engineers, or professing to be even tyros in the science, we found ourselves called upon to determine in your interests.

The contracts for the immense pipes, influent and effluent, and for water extension, were of no small importance, and gave us no little anxiety. The time when they should be given out, the prospective rise and fall in iron, how long we could safely delay in view of lower prices. The building of the foundation for the pumping engines, the necessity of taking the contract from an inefficient contractor and assuming its execution ourselves, with your consent, threw a great labor upon us. Pay rolls of five or six hundred men, bills of work and material furnished, in sums from dollars to thousands, have required, and always received our personal examination before we would pass them for payment. But time would fail and doubtless our patience would be exhausted in the enumeration of many matters of greater or lesser importance to which, in your service, we have been called on to devote our time and the best ability we possess. Suffice it to say, that the Board, in these two years, have spent the main business part of one hundred and fifty days in this work, besides the time spent in two visits east and one west, and the innumerable occasions, when, either as a board or as individuals, we have visited the reservoirs or pumping works, to inspect their progress. We do not tell you that all this as been done from no motive or purpose, but to serve the public, lest we subject ourselves to the smile of derision or incredibility from the legion of eager aspirants for any and every office that can be created, and who cannot appreciate or understand such a motive. We do not tell you that we have done this without compensation; we expected none, we desire none. We expected not even the thanks of the multitude, had we accomplished our intended work to the utmost. But we did expect to be treated, if not with generosity, at least with justice. The Finance Committee have charged us with the following sins of omission: 1st. That a majority of the Board permitted Ross to get bonds from the Controller, and afterwards gave their receipts for the same without knowing how they were disposed of. If this refers to the $312,000 of bonds given to Ross by the Controller, in October last, then the members who gave their receipts testified under oath that it was done at the request of the City Attorney, and under his assurance of its propriety. But if it refers to other bonds, then the answer is that every such bond has been accounted for.

Second, That the Board never examined their own books, nor the books of the City Treasurer, or Controller. As to our own books, it is not correct to say we never examined them, but whether examined or not, they would have shown nothing, except, perhaps, to a skillful accountant, after days of examination, for they now balance to about a dollar with the Treasurer's; and as to examining the Treasurer's and Controller's books, it was not our right or duty to do so; certainly not so much as that of the Finance Committee, whose official secretary the Controller is.

Third, That the Board did not demand from the City Treasurer or Controller a statement of the sale of water bonds. We had no right to make such demand. Had we asked for it perhaps we might have obtained it.

Fourth, That the Board never reported the sale of bonds to the Controller within ten days after sale. This was an omission. Our Secretary, as testified to by our President, was instructed to do so. It was probably thought that the return of proceeds to the Treasurer was a substantial compliance with the ordinance. The Controller certainly never requested any other.

Fifth, That the Board did not report to the Controller a quarterly statement of their business. Strictly, this should have been done. It was never called for, and in the multiplicity of business it was overlooked. We satisfied ourselves with the annual statement which we did make last year, Councils overlooking then, and since, that quarterly statements had not been made.

We confess that we did not expect the Finance Committee, after thus enumerating our shortcomings (and the above contains them all) would have dismissed us and our labors for the city during two years, with the apparently extorted recognition of the fact (the only allusion made to it) that the members of the Board had rendered important service without compensation. This, and nothing more. No, they did do us the grace to add, after summ

WEEKLY DEATH RECORD.

PITTSBURGH.

Dr. W. Snively, physician to the Board of Health, reports the total number of deaths in the city during the week ending December 27th, to be 63. The causes of death were as follows:

Alcoholism, 1; accident by burn, 1; accident by fall, 1; accident by railroad, 3; asphyxia, 1; bronchitis, acute, 2; bronchitis, capillary, 3; Bright's disease, chronic, 3; cerebritis, 3; spinal sclerosis, 1; consumption, 7; convulsions, 2; croup, 2; diphtheritis, 3; dentition, morbid, 1; erysipelas, 1; fever, typhoid, 1; fever, scarlet, 3; gastritis, acute, 1; heart, hypertrophy, 1; inanition, 1; lungs, congestion of, 2; meningitis, acute, 2; meningitis, sub-acute, 2; meningitis, chronic, 1; measles, 1; old age, 1; pneumonitis, 6; pleuritis, 1; pericardiitis, 2; unknown, 3; whooping cough, 1.

The following is the classification:

Sex—Males, 40; females, 23.

Color—White: males, 39; females, 21. Colored: males, 1; females, 2.

Condition—Males: married, 6; single, 30; widowers, 0. Females: married, 4; single, 16; widows, 2.

Nationality—Males: United States, 51; England, 0; Germany, 2; Ireland, 4; not stated, 1. Females: United States, 18; England, 1; Germany, 1; Ireland, 1; Italy, 1; not stated, 1.

Age—Under 1 year, 17; from 1 to 2 years, 5; from 2 to 5 years, 11; from 5 to 10 years, 3; from 10 to 15 years, 3; from 15 to 20 years, 1; from 20 to 30 years, 7; from 30 to 40 years, 5; from 40 to 50 years, 4; from 50 to 60 years, 3; from 60 to 70 years, 2; from 70 to 80 years, 1; from 80 to 90 years, 1.

Place of death—City wards, 62; Mercy Hospital, 1.

ALLEGHENY.

The following is the death record of Allegheny City for the past week, as reported by Health Officer Hoch: Total number, 22; males, 11; females, 11; 2 colored and 20 white. The diseases were:

Still-born, 4; congestion of the lungs, 1; pneumonia, 2; paralysis, 1; scarlet fever, 1; inflammation of bowels, 1; cerebro-spinal meningitis, 1; whooping cough, 1; spasms, 2; astnma, 1; croup, 1; consumption, 1; peretonitis, 1; inflammation of the lungs and dropsy, 1; tuberculosis mesenterica, 1; inanition, 1.

The ages were: Under 1 year, 13; between 1 and 5, 3; between 5 and 10, 0; between 10 and 20, 0; between 20 and 30, 1; between 30 and 40, 1; between 50 and 60, 2; between 60 and 70, 1; between 70 and 80, 1.

THE ENGINEERS' STRIKE.

NO COMPROMISE YET—BOTH PARTIES DETERMINED TO WIN.

The strike of the engineers develops nothing new of importance, the situation remaining about the same as yesterday. The Panhandle officials assert their ability to surmount the difficulties which now beset them, and say they will soon be able to supply the place of the strikers. Mr. Lawrence, General Manager of the Allegheny Valley Railroad, says the engineers on that road, if left to themselves, would prefer submitting to the reduction demanded, but feel bound to stand by the other engineers now out on a strike. The Superintendent says the Company are fully prepared for the strike, and have plenty of experienced men to mann their trains should it occur. So far, the indications are that the general public will suffer through the stagnation of business with the railroad companies, although of course not to the same extent. It is to be hoped that moderation will rule the counsels of both employers and employees.

DQUEUSNE WAGON WORKS.

Farmers and all teamsters in need of wagons will consult their own interest by calling at the extensive wagon manufactory of Messrs. Coleman & son, on Marion avenue, Allegheny. This firm have on hand a large assortment of wagons, rough and spring, carts, steel tooth horse hay rakes, etc., etc. Their spring wagons all have brakes, and the best solid collar swelled shoulder axles, and the springs are of the best oil tempered and warranted spring steel. The jockey wagons and hacks manufactured here are highly spoken of by all who have purchased and tried them, and sales are rapidly increasing, showing that they are appreciated. All orders are promptly filled. w

Finance and Trade.

The following telegrams have been received by N Holmes & Sons, bankers, No. 57 Market street, Pittsburgh:

Gold	110¾
U. S. Sixes, 1881 (coupons)	120¾
Five-Twenties, 1862	114¾
Five-Twenties, 1864	114¾
Five-Twenties, 1865	115¼
Five-Twenties, 1865 (new issue)	115¾
Five-Twenties, 1867	115¾
Five-Twenties, 1868 (coupons)	115¾
Ten-Forties	110¾
Ten-Forties (coupons)	111
Currency Sixes	114½
Pacific Five Per Cents	111

THE MARKETS.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY POST, December 31, 1873.

REMARKS—The market taken as a whole was more satisfactory than for some days past. The general opinion at present is that after the new year has been inaugurated a revival of trade will follow. The weather continues winterish, but not out of season. Our rivers are in fair navigable order to all points. Produce—The market was steady with a fair trade demand; prices have undergone no particular change. Flour—We have to report a firm market and a good trade demand; the advance before noted has been maintained. The leading houses have a good supply on hand and are pleased with the situation. The receipts were liberal. Butter—For choice roll there was a good trade demand; for other kinds there was scarcely any inquiry. Bacon—The market contains an ample supply; prices have been uniform for some days. Apples—The demand for good sound fruit was good and previous prices were fully maintained. The receipts have fallen off.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce received since our last:

Flour, bbls	1,297	Apples, bbls	110
Corn, sks	1,215	Wheat, sks	340
Barley, sks	1,177	Butter, kgs	40
Cheese, bxs	—	Oats, sks	517
Rye, sks	170	Bacon, pcs	6,000
Potatoes, bush.	750		

The following are the wholesale prices unless otherwise noted. From store in a jobbing way the usual advance is obtained:

APPLE BUTTER—The market is fairly supplied with the article; prices for some time have been uniform with sales at 60@70c per gallon.

APPLES—Dealers report a good demand; this however is no unusual occurrence during the holidays. The extreme rates are $2 50@4 00 per barrel; the latter figures for choice winter apples.

ALES—The leading dealers report a good trade demand for the various brands; the current rates are India ale $11; Porter $10; XX ale $10; X ale $8@9 per barrel; half barrels in proportion. Bass' English ale in good supply; prices are unchanged.

BUTTER—We can report a good trade demand for choice roll; this however has been the situation for some time. The extreme prices are 28@30@32c. Common grades are dull and have no fixed value.

BAGGING—In fair supply; the card rates are; two bushel 35c; two half bushel 42c; three bushel 50c.

BEANS—The supply at present exceeds the demand; prices are weak but no lower; sales range from $2@2 50 per bushel.

BANNER BAKING POWDER—Market steady ¼ lb cans per dozen $1 60; ½ lb cans $3 00; 1 lb cans $5 50; 5 lb cans $27 per dozen.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Dull; we hear of an occasional sale at 4@4¼c per pound.

BROOM CORN—Market quiet; prices are without change; we omit figures.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Market well stocked. The card rates are $7 50@8 00 per case.

CARBON OIL—The market was steady but not very active; the rates at the works free on cars are 11@11¼c per gallon, in a small way; the usual advance is charged.

CRANBERRIES—We have nothing new to note in regard to this article; we note regular sales $10@12 50 per bbl; $3 50@4 per box.

COTTON SHEETING—In fair supply; Penn mills: A No. 1 4-4 sheeting 11½c; Lononatook 11c; Pittsburgh family 10½c; Juniata B fine 10c; white carpet-chain fine 33c; colored 40c; cotton batting 16c; cotton twine 33c per pound.

CIDER—The market was quiet with sales at $6@9 per barrel.

DRESSED HOGS—Are in fair demand; we note sales at 5½@6¼c per lb.

DRIED FRUIT—Apples 5@7c; peaches halves 10@12c per lb.

EGGS—Fresh ones still bring 30@32c; pickled 20@25c per dozen.

FLOUR—Dealers continue to report a good trade demand; the current rates are spring wheat $7@7 50; red winter $7 50@8; white $9@10.

GRAIN—The receipts continue light, certain kinds, however, are increasing; stocks are small to operate with. Wheat sells on arrival at the following; red $1 55@1 58; amber $1 60@1 62; white $1 65@1 67 per bushel. Oats firm; mixed 50c; white 52c; prices tending upward. Corn, old shelled held at 73@75c in elevator; new car 63@65c; old 68@70c per bushel. Rye: market quiet at 85@90c. Barley dull, being quoted at $1 25@1 50 per bushel.

GROCERIES—We have nothing very new or important to note in regard to this article, except an improvement in the demand; previous prices have been fully maintained. New Orleans molasses is coming in more freely; coffees are still firm. Look out next month for an active trade.

GAME—The market is well supplied with the various articles that come under this heading, and prices are very low.

HOMINY—The supply was up with the demand; we note sales at $4 50@5 00 per barrel.

HAY—Under more liberal receipts the market was less firm; we quote baled on the landing and on the track at $20@24 per ton.

ONIONS—Market firm; holders have advanced prices; we quote sales at $5@6 per barrel.

POTATOES—The receipts have largely increased; we note sales of peach blows by the car load at $1 10@1 15; in a jobbing way $1 20@1 25 per bush.

PROVISIONS—Market is well supplied; we quote: hams 12½c; shoulders 9½c; plain 8½c; breakfast bacon 11½c; dried beef 15½c; mess pork $17 00 per bbl; ham sausage 10c; rib sides 9c; short rib 9½c; clear 10c; lard, tierces 9½c; half bbls. 10c; buckets 10½c.

POULTRY—Dressed chickens 10@12c per lb; turkeys 15@16c; ducks 12@14c per pound.

SALT—Steady; by the car load $1 60, in a jobbing way $1 85 per bbl.

TALLOW—Market quiet at 6½@7c per pound.

WHISKY—High wines at $1 00@1 02 per gallon.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE POST, December 31, 1873.

REMARKS—The market yesterday was steaday with a good trade demand. The firmness we noticed in the oil region has been maintained and holders refuse to make concessions in order to effect sales. The result was that sales were not very extensive.

CRUDE.

In our own market there has been no change made worthy of notice. The asking rates were 3@3¼c per gallon. The following sales were made at

PARKER'S.

1,000 bbls Union	$1 02½
500 do do	$1 00
1,000 do United	92½

For prices in the oil regions see dispatches.

REFINED.

Prices have undergone no change; sales were reported at the works free on cars at 11@11½c.

Philadelphia—Spot 13½c; January 13½c; February 13¾c; March 14¼c; April 14½c.

New York—Spot 13½@13¾c.

OIL BARRELS.

Market firm; we note sales of City at $1 90; Country, $1 80@1 85.

DISPATCHES.

TITUSVILLE, December 30.—The Courier says: The petroleum markets were quiet and unchanged. The upper road market ranged at $1 12½@1 15. The market at Oil City was quoted at $1 05@1 10. At Parker's the market was quiet and unchanged, United being 22½c and Union $1 02½. The home refined market was held at 5½c in bulk and 10½c in bbls. The following were the sales.

UPPER ROAD.

1,000 bbls spot	$1 12½
1,000 do do	1 12½
1,000 do do	1 15
2,000 do do	1 15

OIL CITY.

500 bbls spot	1 10

PARKER'S

1,000 bbls United	92½
1,000 bbls Union	1 02½
500 do do	1 00

NEW YORK, December, 30.—Closing of 29th. Crude in bulk held a trifle higher on account of the apprehended decrease in receipts through the strike of the railroad employes. Prices 5¼@5½c bid; refined 13¼@13½c. Cases 18½@19c. Philadelphia delivery quiet; refined 13¾@14¼c.

PHILADELPHIA, December 30.—Market quiet; S. W. 13½c; crude, 4¾c; cases, 18c; sales nominal; futures, January, 13½c; February, 13¾c; March, 14@14¼c; April, 14½c.

PARKER'S LANDING, December 30.—Market dull at 85c@$1 02½.

OIL CITY, December 30.—Market quiet at $1 05@1 10.

TITUSVILLE, December 30.—Market steady at $1 12½@1 15c.

TIDIOUTE, December 30.—Market weaker at 90c asked; no sales.

PETROLEUM CENTER, December 30.—Market very quiet at 95c.

ROUSEVILLE, December 30.—Market firm at $1 00.

ALLEGHENY LIVE STOCK MARKET

OFFICE OF THE POST, WEDNESDAY, Dec. 31, 1873.

CATTLE.

The receipts of cattle this week have been light, in fact more so than for a long time, owing to the strike prevailing over the western railroads. The number of cattle received by rail, as will be seen by report below, amounts to only some nineteen cars, or three hundred and fifty head. In addition to these there were small droves from Washington, Beaver, Butler and Mercer counties—about sufficient to make four hundred and fifty head of cattle as the total of offerings. The quality of the cattle in general was the medium grades, with some common and a few good among them. The stock from Chicago was behind hand but came in all right, on hand for the market, and were pretty good cattle, in fact the best, considering what they were, yearlings and two year olds, that have been here for some time. The market opened up at about seven o'clock dull and slow, owing to the fact that drovers held cattle from ½ to ¾c higher than last week. Butchers had a bad meat market last week owing to Christmas, and the free use of poultry, and of course did not expect to pay any advance for cattle, but the strike curtailing the run in connection with the fact that some dealers bought on Saturday for East Liberty and the eastern trade made the supply very light and gave sellers a decided advantage. Butchers after looking over the yards saw the condition of affairs and commenced to purchase. They all bought sparingly, only for this week's use, and after supplying all some cattle were left over unsold. Trade at the close was slow but prices firm, at least from ½ to ¾c higher than last week. Notwithstanding this there was a slight decline in prices toward the close, and some cattle unsold, most of the drovers felt perfectly easy, and withdrew their stock and sent it to East Liberty for wholesale, expecting good prices this week. Samuel Krause bought 2 loads and Lowenstein & Arnold 4 loads for East Liberty. There were some eastern men at the Allegheny Yards to-day but so far as we could learn they did not purchase anything. Prices as noted above were ½ to ¾c higher.

PRICES.

Extra fancy steers	$6 75@7 00
Prime	6 00@6 50
Fair	5 50@5 75
Good	5 00@5 25
Medium	4 50@4 75
Common	4 00@4 25
Bulls	2 50@4 00

SHEEP.

The receipts of sheep to-day were fair, amounting to about six hundred head. The market opened fair on good grades and continued so until the close. Common dull and not wanted. Prime lambs sold from $3 25 to 4 50 per head. Prime sheep from $5 00 to 5 75 per cwt lbs. Common sheep from $2 50 to 3 50 per head. Some drovers withdrew their stock and sent it to East Liberty for wholesale.

HOGS.

The run of hogs was light and all in the hands of regular dealers. The market was slow but prices ½c higher. Some stock remained unsold, butchers refusing to pay the advance.

PRICES.

Extra	$6 20@6 25
Prime	6 00@6 10
Fair	5 75@5 90
Common	5 25@5 50

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE POST, WEDNESDAY, Dec. 31, 1873.

CATTLE.

The receipts of cattle this week have been light, both of through stock for the New York and Philadelphia markets and of cattle intended for sale at this point. For quality the arrivals were not so good as those of last week, there being fewer Christmas or holiday stock on sale. The attendance of buyers was not good, no doubt many of them remaining away to spend their holidays at home. Advices from the East were unfavorable and trade ruled slow at the first of the week, but the runs proving light the feeling toward the close was better. Most of the stock offered changed hands, and at this writing the cattle are pretty well shipped out. On the whole the market this week was a small affair, and the yards devoid of their usual bustle and activity. Following are the prices at which the different grades changed hands:

PRICES.

Extra 1,400 to 1,500 lb steers, fine and smooth	6 00@6 25
Extra 1,300 do	5 50@5 75
Prime 1,200 do	5 00@5 25
Prime 1,100 do	4 50@4 75
Fair 1,000 do	4 00@4 25
Common	3 50@3 75
Bulls	2 50@3 50

HOGS.

The run of hogs this week was light, and in quality are not so good as the arrivals have been for the past few weeks. Trade opened with prices about the same as at the close of the preceeding week, viz: $5 30 for choice tops. On Monday and Tuesday the runs came light; in fact hardly enough to meet the current demand, and holders held stock from 10 to 25c higher which they succeed in getting. On Wednesday trade was slow but prices higher, $5 65 being realized for choice tops. On Christmas morning but few hogs were in the pens, and very few buyers; however holders felt sanguine of obtaining higher figures and held tops firm at $5 50@5 90, although nothing sold higher than $5 65. To-day not much is doing with but little stock in the pens. All the engineers on the Ft. Wayne and Chicago Railways are on a strike for higher wages, and there is considerable stock on the road which may be some time getting here, and with the prospect of light arrivals, higher prices will rule, unless the matter is soon compromised. Following are the rates current:

PRICES:

Extra Philadelphia	$5 65@5 75
Prime do	5 25@5 50
Yorkers	5 15@5 25

SHEEP.

The arrivals of sheep were light, the market slow and not much doing with very little change in prices since our last report.

PRICES.

Extra	$5 25
Prime	4 90@5 00
Good	4 75

NEW YORK MONEY MARKET.

NEW YORK, December 30.—Money closed easy at 6@7 per cent. Sterling dull at 108¾@108¾ for sixty days, and 109¾ for sight. The new plan of quoting exchange will go into operation here on Friday next. Instead of the present asking rates for long and demand, sterling quotations will be $4,84 and 4,88 under the new par of exchange as indicated by mint value in dollars. Customs receipts $256,000.

Gold, after selling at 110¾ closed 110¼. Loans were made at 6, 7, 1-32 and 7 per cent. gold for carrying. The final rate was 6. The assistant treasurer disbursed $1,869,000 gold mostly for January interest and $495,000 currency interest. Gold clearing $43,000,000. Governments firm and in good demand. State bonds dull.

Stocks were dull in the morning, but during the afternoon were active and strong. The principal strength was in Panama, St. Paul preferred, Northwest, Western Union, and New York Central. The first named rose from 105¾ to 109, and the advance in the other shares ranged from ½ to 1¼ per cent. Northwest was unusually prominent in dealings and the last sales were at the highest price of the day. St. Paul preferred advanced to 66 bid with very little offering. New York Central sold at 99½ and Rock Island at 100, the highest figures since the panic.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

PRODUCE.

NEW YORK, December 30.—Cotton dull at 16¼c. Flour firmer; superfine western and State $5 90@6; common to good, $6 50@6 80; good to choice $6 90@7 20 Whisky quiet at 97½c. Wheat scarce; No. 2 spring $1 57@1 58; No. 2 Northwest, $1 58; Iowa spring $1 59@1 60. Rye firm. Barley and malt unchanged. Corn firmer western mixed afloat 84½c; of last 84½@85c. Oats unsettled; mixed western 59@61c; white 60@62c Hay, hops and groceries quiet and unchanged. Petroleum dull; crude 5¼@5¾c; refined 13½c. Turpentine 40½@41c. Pork firm at $16@16¼. Beef quiet and unchanged. Hams quiet at 24@25c. Cutmeats quiet at 7¾c. Middles higher at 7¾, 7¾@8c. Lard weak at 8¾@9¼c. Butter and cheese steady and unchanged.

PHILADELPHIA, December 30.—Wool was quiet and firm and scarce; Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia double extra and above 55@56c; extra 44@45c; medium, 55@56c; coarse 50@52c; New York, Michigan, Indiana, Western fine 48@52c; medium 54@55c; coarse 50@52c; combing, washed, 60@62c; combing, unwashed, 40@42c; Canada, combed, 60@63c; fine unwashed, 34@35c; coarse and medium washed, 35@38c; tub washed 55@57¾c.

DRY GOODS.

The trade movement continues slow with agents and jobbers alike. The market for cotton goods remains quiet, but prices are unchanged and quite firm. Agents ask 9c for the best makes of paper cambrics, but jobbers are selling at 8½c. Woolens for men's wear are in better request. Fancy cassimeres and worsted coatings in steady demand by clothiers.

CHICAGO, December 30.—Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat dull but unsettled; closing quiet at ¾c below best prices; No. 1 spring $1 18½@1 19; No. 2, $1 17 spot; $1 17¼ January; $1 20½ February; No. 3 $1 13. Corn active and prices advanced; No. 2 mixed 53½c for spot; 53¾c seller January; 54¼c seller February. Oats—demand good at full prices; No. 2 38½c for spot; 39½c for February. Rye steady and in moderate demand; No. 1, 77@78c. Barley active and prices advanced; fall No. 2 $1 38@1 40; No. 3 $1 11@1 14. Pork fairly active at $14 35. Lard steady with moderate demand at 8½@8¾c. Bulk meats firm at 5¾@7¼@7¾c. Green meats firm; shoulders 5c; short rib middles 6¾c; hams ¼c higher at 7¾@8¼c for 18 and 16 pound averages. Dressed hogs steady at $6 00@6 25 for common to extra. Whisky steady and in moderate demand at 93c.

CINCINNATI, December 30.—Cotton quiet at 15½c. Flour firmer. Wheat active at $1 40@1 50. Corn firm at 55@57c. Rye firm at 93@95c. Oats quiet at 43@49c. Barley quiet and unchanged. Pork firmer at 15¾c. Lard firm at 8¼@8¾c. Bulk meats firm at 6, 7@7½c. Green meats steady, shoulders 5¾c; clear rib 6¾c; clear 7¼@7¼c. Bacon steady; sales at 7, 8¼@8¾c. Hogs active; light shipping at $4 85@5 05; good packing $5 25@5 60. Whisky firm at 94c.

TOLEDO, December 30.—Flour: demand fair and market firm. Wheat active and prices advanced; No. 3 white Wabash $1 50; amber Michigan $1 50@1 51; seller January $1 51½; No. 1 red $1 53½. Corn: demand fair and market firm; high mixed 61½c; seller February 62½c; new 57½c. Oats quiet; No. 2 38½c.

NASHVILLE, December 30.—Cotton, demand fair and market firm 13¼@14. Corn firm 65c Oats quiet 50@55c. Flour and wheat quiet and unchanged. Provisions steady. Lard 9½c. Bulk shoulders 6½c sides 7½@7¾c. Hams 10c. Whisky advanced 97c.

MILWAUKEE, December 30.—Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat quiet and weak; No. 1 Milwaukee $1 20; No. 2 $1 17½. Oats steady; No. 2 37c. Corn in active demand and prices advanced. No. 2 mixed 58¾c. Rye in fair demand and market firm; No. 1 75½c. Barley in fair demand and market firm; No. 2 $1 40.

PHILADELPHIA, December 30.—Flour firm; superfine $4 50@5 5c. Wheat steady at $1 55@1 60. Rye steady at 90@93c. Corn firm at 82c. Oats quiet; white 56@58c. Crude petroleum 9¾c; refined 12¾c. Whisky $1 00.

CLEVELAND, December 30.—Holders of all kinds of grain firm. Wheat, No. 1 red $1 57; No. 2 $1 48. Corn 65@66c. Oats 6@49c. Petroleum quiet and unchanged.

MEMPHIS, December 30.—Cotton dull; good ordinary 13¾@14¼c; low middling 14¾c. Grain and provisions quiet and unchanged.

PITTSBURGH WOOL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 31, 1873.

The market has undergone no quotable change since our last issue; dealers are apart in their views. The extreme views of holders has in a measure checked operations. After the advent of the new year we may look for an improvement, The local rates are as follows.

PRICES.

Fine fleece	45@48c
Tub washed	45@47c
Combing	50c
Medium fleece	45@47c
Common fleece	42@45c
Pulled wools	35@37c

WINES AND LIQUORS.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 31, 1873.

	Per gal.
Common rectified Whisky	$ 95@1 00
Proof rectified	1 05@1 10
Monongahela Rye, 1 year old	1 50
Monongahela Rye, 2 years old	2 00
Monongahela Rye, 3 years old	2 50
Monongahela Rye, 4 years old	3 25
Pure Rye, 5 years old	5 00
Pure Rye, 2 years old	2 25
Domestic Brandy, proof gallon	1 50
Imported brandy	6 00@9 00
Domestic Gin	1 50@1 75
Holland Gin	2 90@3 50
B. B. Brandy	1 50@1 75
Cherry Brandy	1 50@1 75
Port Wine	1 50@1 75
Port Wine "Crown,"	2 00@2 50
Sherry Wine "Valette,"	1 50@1 75
Sherry Wine "Crown,"	2 25@2 75
Sherry Wine "Harmony,"	5 50@6 00
Rum "New England,"	1 75@2 00
Rum "Jamaica;"	5 00@5 50

	Quarts.	Pints.
Champaigne, "C. H."	$27 00	$29 00
Champaigne, "Imperial"	16 00	18 00
Champaign, "Gold Seal"	18 00	20 00
Highwines	1 00@1 02	

WHITE LEAD, PUTTY, ETC.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 25, 1873.

Pure in lots of 2000 lbs in oil	11½c
Pure in lots of 500 lbs in oil	12 c
Fancy brands	8 @10 c
White lead dry (strictly pure) in kegs	11 @11½c
Orange mineral	14 @14½c
Pure red lead	10 @11 c
Painters' red lead	9 @10 c
Litharge	9½@10 c
Selected zinc, ground in oil	11 c
Vieille Montagne Co.'s French zinc	15 c
Blue paint, ground in oil	8 @11 c
Putty	3¾@ c

COTTON GOODS.

The following are the prices as reported by Kennedy, Childs & Co.:

Penn Mill, A No 1, 44 sheetings	11½	Penn Mill 2½ bush bags	42
Nonatoos, 4-4 sheeting	11	Penn Mill, 3 bush	50
Pittsburgh Family 4-4 sheeting	10½	White Carpetchain do	33
Unions B, fine, 4-4 do	10	Colored carpet ch'n	40
Ho esting	16	Penn Mill 2 bush bags	35
shon Batting	33		
otton Twine			

CRACKER MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 31, 1873.

	₱ lb		₱ lb
Butter crackers	7 c	Sugar crackers	9½c
Cream do	22 c	Water do	7 c
Lemon do	11½c	N Y water do	7 c
Oyster do	7 c	Wine do	9½c
Soda do	7 c	Ginger snaps	12½c

FAMILY MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 31, 1873.

MEATS.

Beef, sirloin steak, ₱ lb	20c
Beef, round steak, ₱ lb	18c
Fresh mutton, ₱ lb	10@12c
Fresh lamb, ₱ lb	10@12c
Fresh veal, ₱ lb	10@12c
Fresh pork, ₱ lb	12@15c
Corned beef, ₱ lb	10c
Ham, ₱ lb	18c
Pickled pork, ₱ lb	10c
Dried beef, ₱ lb	20c
Breakfast bacon, ₱ lb	14@16c
Sausage meat, ₱ lb	12½c

FISH.

Lake fish, ₱ lb	10 c

POULTRY.

Chickens, per pair	60@70c
Ducks, per pair	$1 00
Turkeys	$1 00@2 00

FRUITS AND BERRIES.

Apples, per half peck	20@25c
Lemons, ₱ dozen	25@50c
Oranges, ₱ dozen	60@75c
Malaga Grapes	35c
Grapes, ₱ lb	10@12c
Cranberries, per quart	20c

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes, per half peck	15c
Sweet potatoes, per half peck	30c
Turnips, per half peck	15c
Carrots, per bunch	5c
Onions, per half peck	30c
Lettuce, per head	5c
Beets, per bunch	6c
Radishes, per bunch	5c
Squashes, each	25c
Cabbages, per head	5@15c
Lima Beans per quart	20
Parsnips, ₱ bunch	10c
Celery, 3 bunches	25c

BUTTER.

Prime to choice yellow print, per lb	40@45c
Choice yellow roll, per lb	30@35c
Ordinary to good do, per lb	20@25c
Cheese, per lb	20c
Eggs, fresh, per dozen	35c

PITTSBURGH NAIL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 31, 1873.

CUT NAILS, BRADS, SPIKES, ETC.

	Per keg.
10d to 60d nails, fence and brads	$4 25
8d and 9d " " "	4 50
6d and 7d " " "	4 75
4d and 5d nails	5 00
3d nails	5 75
2d nails	7 00

FINE BLUED.		CLINCH.	
3d	$7 25	Clinch nails	$6 00
2d	8 00	CUT SPIKES.	
CASING.		3 to 6 inch	4 50
10d to 30d	5 50	BARREL.	
8d and 9d	5 25	¾ inch	7 25
6d and 7d	5 75	⅞ inch	6 00
FINISHING.		1 inch	5 75
10d to 30d	5 75	1¼ inch	6 25
8d	6 00	1¼ inch	6 00
6d	6 25	1½ inch	5 50
4d	6 50	1¾ inch	5 25

12½c per keg off lots of 100 kegs and over.

Terms—Note or acceptance at 60 days, with exchange on New York, or discount of two per cent. for cash, if remitted within ten days from date of invoice. Payments to be made in New York exchange, United States treasury notes, or their equivalent. No discount on bills of less amount than fifty dollars.

WROUGHT IRON WELDED TUBES.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 31, 1873.

Manufacturers' rivised price list of wrought iron pipe, adopted September 9, 1873:

Inside diameter. Inches.	Plain Iron pipe. Per foot.	Galvanized pipe. Per foot.	Weight of pipe. Per foot.
BUTT ELDED.			
⅛	10	22	24
¼	10	22	42
⅜	12	22	56
½	15	24	85
¾	20	32	1 12
1	29	45	1 67
1¼	39	60	2 25
1½	50	85	2 69
LAP WELDED.			
2	70	1 15	3 66
2½	1 10	1 80	5 77
3	1 50	2 30	7 54
3½	1 85	3 00	9 05
4	2 50	3 50	10 72
4½	2 75	4 00	12 40
5	3 20	4 75	14 56
6	4 50	6 00	18 77
7	6 00	.....	23 41
8	7 00	.....	28 35
9	10 00	.....	.....
10	12 00	.....	40 64

Terms, net cash. Payments to be made in New York Exchange, United States Treasury Notes, or their equivalent. Liberal discount to the trade.

NATRONA CHEMICALS.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 31, 1873.

The following are the card rates of the Pennsylvania Salt Manufacturing Company:

Saponifer—50 case t	$7 50 ₱ case
Less quantity	8 00 "
Greenwich Lye, (50 cases	7 25 "
Potash—50 cases (delivered in Phila.)	8 00 "
Less quantity	8 50 "
Bi carb soda—25 kegs	6 50@6 75 ₱ lb
Less quantity	7½@7¾c "
Sal soda—25 kegs	2½c "
Less quantity	3½c "
al soda—25 bbls	2¾c "
Less quantity	3¼c "
Caustic soda—10 drums	8 c "
Less quantity	8¼c "
Copperas—20 bbls	1¾c "
Less quantity	2 c "
Porous alum—10 bbls	3¾c "
Less quantity	4 c "
Sulphuric acid	3 c "
Muriatic acid	4¼c "
Nitric acid	15 c "
Chloride calcium	2½c "
Pure alumina	10 c "
Lump alum	3¾@4 c "

Terms, cash in 30 days.

LUMBER MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 31, 1873.

UNPLANED LUMBER.

Clear, per M	$65 00
First common	55 00
Second common	30 00
Third common	25 00
Sheeting	20 00
Hemlock joists and scantling	20 00

PLANED LUMBER.

First common, ₱ M	$60 00
Clear	70 00
Flooring boards	34 00
Partition boards	45 00
Shelving on both sides	34 00
Shelving on one side	32 00
Plow and drop weatherboarding	34 00
Moulded weatherboarding	37 00
Rabbited weatherboarding	34 00
Half-inch patent planed	25 00
Half-inch patent unplaned	20 00
Twelve-inch vertical, with stripes	32 00
Oak and yellow pine flooring boards	45 00

SHINGLES AND LATH.

No. 1, 18-inch, sawed	$ 6 50
No. 2, 18-inch, sawed	5 00
No. 1, 16-inch, shaved	6 00
No, 1, 16-inch, sawed	6 00
Lath	4 25

BROOM MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 31, 1873.

Shaker No. 1, ₱ dozen	$ 3 50
Shaker " 2, "	3 00
Hurl A " " "	3 25
Hurl " 1, "	3 00
Hurl " 2, "	3 00
Plain Hurl	2 00
Western common	2 00
Broom corn, prime ₱ ton	150@180 00
Broom corn, common ₱ ton	140@160 00
Broom handles, ₱ 1,000, plain	18 00
Painted	30 00
Swallow brooms, ₱ dozen	
I C, 14x20, leaded	12 00
I X, 14x20, leaded	14 25

According to quality and quantity prices would vary less.

PITTSBURGH DRUG MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE POST, Dec. 31, 1873.

Corrected by Harris & Ewing, wholesale druggists.

Acid.				Magnesia	lb	80	@1 00
Acetic	lb	16	@ 20	Carb	lb	75	@ 80
Citric	lb	1 50	@1 60	Manna S F	lb		@ 60
Oxalic	lb	25	@ 30	Morph sul	oz	3 70	@4 00
Sulph.	lb		3½	Nutm No 1	lb		1 00
Tartaric	lb	55	@ 60	Oil			
Alcohol,	gal	3 00	@3 20	Bergamot	lb	2 25	@6 00
Aloes,				—Castor	lb	2 25	@ 2 50
Capo	lb		20	—Cinnam'n	lb		2 70
Socot	lb		75	—Cloves	lbs	2 00	@3 50
Am Carb	lb	25	@ 30	Oil			
—Aqua	lb	11	@ 13	Cod liver	gal	1 2 00	@2 20
Annotta	lb	65	@ 80	Lemon	lb		5 00
Ashes				Linseed,	gal	85	@1 00
—Soda	lb	4½	@ 5½	Neats F,	gal	1 00	@1 05
Bal. Copa	lb	38	@1 00	Olive,	gal	1 75	@2 00
Bay Rum,	gal	2 25	@3 50	—quarts	doz	4 25